*Speed performance claims based on comparing download speed of Rogers 3.5G HSPA network and competitors' 1xEvdo networks within Rogers HSPA coverage area. Speed may vary depending on the handset, topography and environmental conditions, network congestion and other factors. HSPA network not available in all areas. See rogers.com/rocket for coverage details.
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Celebrity Buzz

Simpson scolds Perez Hilton

pg 45

Escalator accident puts 1 in hospital

THEATRE A 27-year-old man was in critical condition yesterday after he fell more than 30 feet from the second floor of a downtown movie theatre on Sunday night.

It happened just before midnight at the AMC Theatre near Yonge-Dundas Square. According to witnesses, the man was descending on the escalator when he decided to hoist himself up onto the moving handrail, in order to ride it down.

Unfortunately he took a more direct route to the floor below when he lost his balance and fell 30 feet, landing on his head.

He was taken to hospital, where he remains in "grave" condition with head injuries, said Sgt. John Spanton.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tennis

Smashing kickoff to Rogers Cup

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Serbian tennis star Ana Ivanovic plays a backhand return to Danish player Caroline Wozniacki during a publicity stunt downtown yesterday. The players hit some shots at the corner of Yonge and Dundas streets to promote the start of the Rogers Cup in Toronto.
More coverage on the Rogers Cup, page 21

Toronto the cold

Coors Light marketing campaign takes aim at Hogtown

They're mocking Toronto again.

A new billboard campaign in British Columbia for Coors Light declares the beer is "Colder Than Most People From Toronto." The slogan caught Newmarket resident Kathryn Morton by surprise.

"That's pretty insulting to such a large group of people," she said.

"We hear stuff about Toronto people all the time but we couldn't believe anyone would put it on a billboard."

Morton, who grew up in Kamloops, where she said it was common for people to make fun of Toronto, saw the ad on a family camping trip a couple of weeks ago. Her 16-year-old son Stuart spotted it first.

SUBMITTED

Stuart Morton, 16, is baffled by this British Columbia billboard.

"He realized the political incorrectness of it," she said.

"What bothered us was we saw the Olympic logo on the billboard. This isn't a great way to bring in people to the province."

But marketing expert Paul Cubbon said it's likely the people behind the billboards wanted to generate talk.

Making fun of Toronto is a unity issue that ties together everyone who doesn't live there, a strategy that has been used for years.

Coors Light brand marketing manager Adam Moffat said he has heard complaints about the beer ad from one or two people.

"What we've told consumers is we're sorry and apologetic if we've offended anyone," he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Obama to back down on public health care?

POLITICS First conservatives assailed the Obama administration for its attempts to establish government health insurance. Now liberals are fuming that the White House might back down from the so-called public option in the face of those vociferous attacks.

It's yet another topsy turvy week in the United States with President Barack Obama signalling he's prepared to drop the public option in his sweeping health-care overhaul amid a searing national brawl that's now infuriating even his base of loyal supporters.

"I went door-to-door for Obama, I donated what little I could to him, money-wise, and I spent hours at phone banks for him," Kate Hamill, a New Yorker who can't afford health insurance said.

Obama has apparently come to the realization that he doesn't have the Congressional votes to pass the bill. All congressional Republicans are opposed, as are some fiscally conservative Democrats.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Options

- Leading Republicans have said they could work with the White House alternative to inject competition into the health-insurance industry — non-profit health-care co-operatives that will still require Americans to pay monthly premiums, although at cheaper rates than those charged by many blue-chip insurers.

Health pg 32

Love your whole grain

Your Money pg 19

Wincing on their wine

Comment pg 16

Name game not a problem

Workology pg 26

Online can be eco-friendly

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Toronto 1 Concorde Gate, Suite 703, Toronto, Ontario M3C 3N6. Publisher: Bill McDonald

Learning that responds to the demands of any career

A Continuing Education Success Story – Despite experience as a health inspector, Sonia Singh found it difficult to achieve her goal of working in emergency management. "In order to get a job, you need to speak the language of emergency management," Sonia says. She turned to Continuing Education at George Brown College. Less than a year later, she had completed the Emergency Management Certificate and landed an Emergency Planning Co-ordinator position. "George Brown provided me with practical experience, and that gave me immense confidence," Sonia says. "I knew I could do the job. I knew I was the best candidate."

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Man, 39, charged with assault
Police have charged a Toronto man with sexually assaulting a woman in her apartment. Police said the 31-year-old woman was in her apartment near Keele Street and Sheppard Avenue West with the man on Aug. 12. Police said the man sexually assaulted her and wouldn't let her leave. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Man faces fraud charges

A 28-year-old man has been charged with fraud after allegedly conning people into believing he was a wealthy Italian who was either a mathematician, symphony writer, or business investor. The accused would prey on people in bars, coffee shops, libraries, casinos and through Craigslist. After meeting his victims, he would introduce himself as Giancarlo Dinatale and explain that he had lost his wallet and luggage before asking for money. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
2009 Festival of Media Awards

INDEX

Canada Pg 8
World Pg 14
Comment Pg 16
Business Pg 18
Your Money Pg 19
Sports Pg 21
Workology Pg 26
Entertainment Pg 37
Celebrity Buzz Pg 45

Tomorrow's Metro

Metro Drive
Decorating doyenne Debbie Travis reveals her 'tanning machine on wheels' in My Drive.

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs Sportsnet analyst and former England premiership goaltender Craig Forrest joins the It's Called Football show to talk premiership and MLS.

Your Money Allan Small on why fears of high U.S. inflation are unfounded at metronews.ca/investing

Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3: 5 4 4; Ontario Pick 4 : 7 6 7 3
Encore: 2245747
Daily Keno: 22, 3, 5, 8, 13, 17, 19, 25, 27, 32, 35, 38, 40, 43, 46, 48, 51, 57, 62, 69
These results are not official.

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Temps soar, but some feeling chill

Heat-starved farmers, cooling companies, parks sweating this summer

With a few days of heat-killing rain coming up, we may have just seen the best shot at summer that we're going to get this year.

After four days of slowly building heat, the temperature rose above 30 C yesterday for only the third time in 2009.

A handful of city-run pools even stayed open until 11:45 Sunday night as we came within a degree of the hottest day of the year, which still stands as June 24 at 31.4 C.

But compared with 2005, these stats don't look so hot. That year saw a remarkable 41 days of 30-degree weather, with a July 11 high of 35.5 C.

With that in mind, it's easy to see why some heat-starved companies are sweating this summer. Here's just a few that are feeling the chill:

- Corn farmers, who will see a $200 million loss in spoiled crops unless fall temperatures stay higher than normal.

"I need it to be frost-free until Thanksgiving," said Don McCabe of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

- Pumpkin farmers, who are starting to worry that their crops won't have the heat and sunshine required to mature in time for Thanksgiving and Halloween. "A lot of people are already starting to doubt the market," said Paul Zammit of the Toronto Botanical Garden.
- Air conditioning sales are also down about 20 to 30 per cent, noted Alex Fedontchouk of Husky Heating. But "we're selling more furnaces because of the government rebate."
- "July was a really bad month for us," according to Alex Siu-Chong of Wild Water Kingdom.

Though exact admission figures weren't available, attendance is definitely down at the Brampton Vaughan-area water park, Siu-Chong said.

This past weekend was the first time this summer their parking lots were packed for two days straight — something that normally happens almost every weekend.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hugh crowds flocked to the beach at Ashbridges Bay as Toronto temperatures soared into the 30s. The water temperature was 24 C.

Young skateboarder hit by cruiser

Just seconds after skateboarding through a High Park intersection, the 17-year-old youth glanced behind him to see his 12-year-old friend get hit by a car that turned out to be an undercover police cruiser.

Tale Dimitrijevic's small body bounced off the front of the dark grey Pontiac, leaving a basketball-sized crack in the front window.

He then fell onto the pavement where he muttered in pain as blood pooled around him.

"It all happened so fast. In like, five seconds he was on the ground."
Maciej, friend

"It all happened so fast. In like, five seconds he was on the ground," said Maciej, who declined to give his last name.

The pair had been skateboarding down the sloping hill of Glenlake Avenue just before 3 p.m. yesterday, building up speed to jet across Keele Street before the light turned red.

It was something they had done before, but this time Dimitrijevic was just too slow, his friend said.

"I swear the light was green when I went through. I don't know what happened," Maciej said.

Investigators, however, said the two crossed on a red and that the officer had the right of way.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'People are living in fear'

GUNS Two weeks ago, the top officers at 23 Division released a community bulletin, warning residents about the rise of gun violence in the city's northwest end.

"These involve cases of reported incidents of shots being fired and thankfully no injuries," the Toronto police message said.

Since then, the division has had two fatal shootings.

The most recent incident occurred Sunday, when 34-year-old Bishen Golaub was gunned down after leaving a friend's townhouse on Mt. Olive Drive, near Kipling and Finch avenues.

"It's bad here. People are living in fear," said neighbour Sachana Tracey.

Two Toronto men have been charged with first-degree murder.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Gun violence

- The slaying is the city's 37th homicide of the year and the second shooting outside that housing complex in less than two weeks. On Aug. 4, a 26-year-old man was shot in the face but survived. Meanwhile, Tevane Sean Lennon was killed a week ago in nearby Jamestown when he was shot while riding his bike.

News in brief

SHORTFALL Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Board is blaming the recession for its deteriorating financial results and a $3.34-billion loss last year. The WSIB says the shortfall won't threaten its ability to provide benefits to workers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Man allegedly beaten with baseball bat

A 44-year-old man was taken to hospital in serious condition yesterday after being attacked by a man armed with a baseball bat at a townhouse on Queen Victoria Street, near Greenwood and Danforth avenues. The attack left the victim with serious head wounds. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Facebook pledges changes

Watchdog works with site on personal data worries

The federal privacy watchdog says it's having positive talks with popular social networking site Facebook over concerns about use of personal details.

"I think that discussions are going well and we remain hopeful," said privacy commission spokeswoman Anne-Marie Hayden.

Yesterday was the deadline for Facebook to provide Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart with an accounting of its actions to comply with recommendations in a hard-hitting report last month.

A company spokeswoman said Facebook would meet the deadline.

Stoddart will take 15 days to review the submission and see if it meets her demands.

"We're quite hopeful that they'll respond to the concerns we've raised in our investigation report, but we're not in a position to determine that at this moment," Hayden said.

"We're going to need to review their actions thoroughly, and once we've done so then we'll determine next steps."

Facebook, which has nearly 12 million Canadian users and some 250 million worldwide, allows people to keep in touch with friends and family by updating personal pages with messages and photos.

Stoddart launched her investigation in response to a complaint last year from the Canadian Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic at the University of Ottawa's law faculty.

In her report, which made headlines around the globe, Stoddart warned the personal information of Facebook members may be at risk.

She said Facebook breaches federal privacy law by keeping users' personal information indefinitely — even after members close their accounts.

She also raised concerns about the sharing of users' information with the almost one million third-party developers in scores of countries who create Facebook applications such as games and horoscopes.

She can take the U.S.-based firm to the Federal Court of Canada if it doesn't change practices to her satisfaction.

Facebook spokeswoman Alexandra Brown said a timeline for implementing changes would be included in yesterday's submission.

Barry Schnitt, a Facebook director in Palo Alto, said in a statement there has been a "constructive dialogue" with Stoddart's office.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Not so friendly...

- Five Facebook users have filed a civil lawsuit in California alleging that the social networking site violates state privacy laws and misleads people about how their personal information is used. The lawsuit was filed yesterday in Orange County Superior Court. It demands damages and attorney's fees and includes a request for a jury trial.

Cop denies drug charge

TRIAL A veteran Peel police officer has denied stealing 15 bricks of suspected cocaine from a botched RCMP-controlled delivery.

Const. Sheldon Cook yesterday insisted he was told by his bosses to take the packages home to Cambridge when he discovered them in the trunk of his police cruiser after his shift ended in the early hours of Nov. 17, 2005. He said he had intended to drop the packages off at morality later that morning on his way to court.

"I never thought I was leaving with a trunk full of drugs."
Const. Sheldon Cook

"I never thought I was leaving with a trunk full of drugs," Cook said, testifying at his Brampton trial. He said he had been told the drugs were flour, not cocaine.

Federal prosecutors David Rowcliffe and Ania Weiler say Cook took the drugs, which he believed were real, during his involvement as part of Det. Marty Rykhoff's crew investigating the seizure of 102 bricks of suspected cocaine from a courier truck the night before.

The drugs turned out to be flour, part of an RCMP-controlled delivery from Peru to Canada that went missing 12 hours earlier after arriving at Pearson International Airport.

Cook, 40, has pleaded not guilty to seven criminal charges in this judge-alone trial before Justice Casey Hill that began last November.

Cook is charged with attempt to possess a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking and breach of trust as a police officer. He is suspended with pay. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Compensation question has no easy answer

CASH It's the million-dollar question.

How much money will Suaad Hagi Mohamud, the woman trapped in Kenya for nearly three months, get from the Canadian government?

Suaad Hagi Mohamud

There are no handy precedents for her bizarre experience. A veteran Toronto lawyer, who did not want to be named because he does not know all the facts of the case, said he would tell a judge Mohamud's situation was "analogous to a wrongful imprisonment," as she was "effectively imprisoned in a foreign country." The veteran lawyer would not speculate on likely compensation, but said: "I can tell you it's not trivial sums of money." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mom vows to stay put for answers

For the past 22 days, single mom Maria Bunda has protested outside the front doors of the provincial Legislature with a sign fixed atop her backpack that reads: "Six-years-old, severely autistic boy, denied therapy, denied a chance."

Bunda, 47, silently paces back and forth in sweltering heat. She is found outside daily and vows to keep coming back until someone explains and reverses the decision to cut off provincial funding for her son Sebastian's intensive behavioural intervention (IBI) therapy.

"He desperately needs it," Bunda said. "I will be here as long as it takes, as long as I can."

There are 1,513 autistic children waiting for provincially funded IBI treatment and another 389 waiting for assessments throughout the province. The longer children spend waiting, the harder it becomes to help.

Bunda is an oddity to the busloads of tourists who visit Queen's Park during the summer. One group from China sent their translator to ask what the problem was. "In Canada, don't they pay for everything in children's health?" the translator asks.

"No they don't," said Bunda, a waitress from Hamilton who spends the little free time she has standing outside with her sign.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JIM RANKIN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

For the past 22 days, single mom Maria Bunda, 47, has stood outside the front doors of the provincial Legislature. She vows to keep coming back until someone explains why her autistic son Sebastian no longer qualifies for intensive behavioural intervention therapy.

Monster trucks no cause for alarm, critic concedes

TRANSPORTATION The recent arrival of monster trucks on Ontario highways shouldn't be cause for panic, says a former critic of the idea.

The first Long Combination Vehicles (LCVs) — semis drawing two full-size trailers — began operating in Ontario two weeks ago, under a pilot program with standards so stringent the head of the Ontario Safety League no longer thinks drivers should be worried.

Brian Patterson said he was impressed with the provincial Ministry of Transportation's "intestinal fortitude" in the face of trucking industry opposition to what he calls the toughest standards in North America. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Yard waste collection resumes following strike

Leaf and yard waste collection, which occurs every other week, resumes today across Toronto. For the next two weeks, residents are allowed to put out unlimited amounts of garbage and recycling. No special yellow tags are required. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cocaine-tainted cash

U.S. researchers examine banknotes taken from Toronto

Nearly nine out of 10 Canadian banknotes examined by a team of U.S. researchers contained trace amounts of cocaine.

In a study presented Sunday at the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society, researchers looked at banknotes from more than 30 cities in Canada, the U.S., Brazil, China, and Japan.

Twenty-seven Canadian bills, taken mostly from Toronto and the Sarnia, Ont., area, were analyzed, said lead researcher Yuegang Zuo, a chemistry and biochemistry professor at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

Contaminated

- Bills that are not involved in drug deals can also be contaminated as they are processed by banks.

Of the Canadian bills, 85 per cent were laced with cocaine. The amount of coke found on the banknotes ranged from 2.4 micrograms to upwards of 2,530 micrograms — about 100 grains of sand.

The results in the U.S. were similar. The researchers examined 234 bills from 17 U.S. cities and found that nearly 90 per cent of the notes contained trace amounts of cocaine.

Scientists have long known that money can become contaminated with cocaine during drug deals or by snorting the drug through rolled bills.

Such studies can be useful for police, said Zuo, because they can help identify drug traffic patterns in a particular community.

But he also said an analysis of 27 Canadian banknotes is not enough to make sweeping generalizations about cocaine use in the country.

"It doesn't really represent the whole of Canadian currency," said Zuo.

"The number is too small. More substantive research is needed."

Law enforcement agencies might look to research like Zuo's to help boost the number of drug-related arrests, but that alone won't lower addiction rates, said University of Ottawa criminology professor Irvin Waller. "The real issue is how much money you're putting into prevention," said Waller.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MICHAEL STUPARYK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ghulam Sajan shows the letter, mailed to his address in 1992 with a 42 cent stamp that he received last week.

Letter lost in the mail arrives after 17 years

POST When the envelope began its journey Aug. 22, 1992, Brian Mulroney was prime minister, the Barenaked Ladies were wishing for a million dollars and the Toronto Blue Jays were soon to be World Series champs. It was 17 years ago, less a few days.

So when the same envelope arrived in the Thornhill mailbox of Ghulam Sajan last Thursday, he was understandably confused.

It was addressed to 45 Harris Way, Thornhill, but included only the first part of the postal code: L3T. The rest, it seems, took 17 years to be filled in.

The envelope, bearing a 42-cent stamp, carried a donation receipt for aid to Bosnia, sent from a mosque less than a kilometre from Sajan's house.

Sajan was president of that mosque when the letter was sent, and he was overseeing the donation committee that mailed it. An old friend had made the donation, but the committee didn't have his address, so they sent it to Sajan.

"It can't even be claimed for income tax ... Too late."
Ghulam Sajan

Albert Lee, communications manager for Canada Post, called the saga "extremely rare." He said mail is delivered within a standard period more than 96 per cent of the time. So where did the letter languish for all those years?

Lee said the most likely scenario is that with an incomplete postal code, it was delivered to the wrong house, and there it sat until someone decided to pop it back in the mail.

Sajan said he plans to give the envelope to someone to pass along to his old friend, who probably isn't expecting it anymore. "It can't even be claimed for income tax," Sajan said. "Too late."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Funds for infrastructure to flow this week: Baird

STIMULUS Long-awaited stimulus funding promised to municipalities for work on roads, sewers and other projects will flow this week, federal Infrastructure Minister John Baird has pledged.

In an open letter yesterday to mayors and councillors in the GTA — who say they have yet to receive a cent of the money promised in January — Baird assures them that Ottawa is a "willing funding partner."

But for the stimulus measures to work, "your councils and officials have to get projects going," he adds.

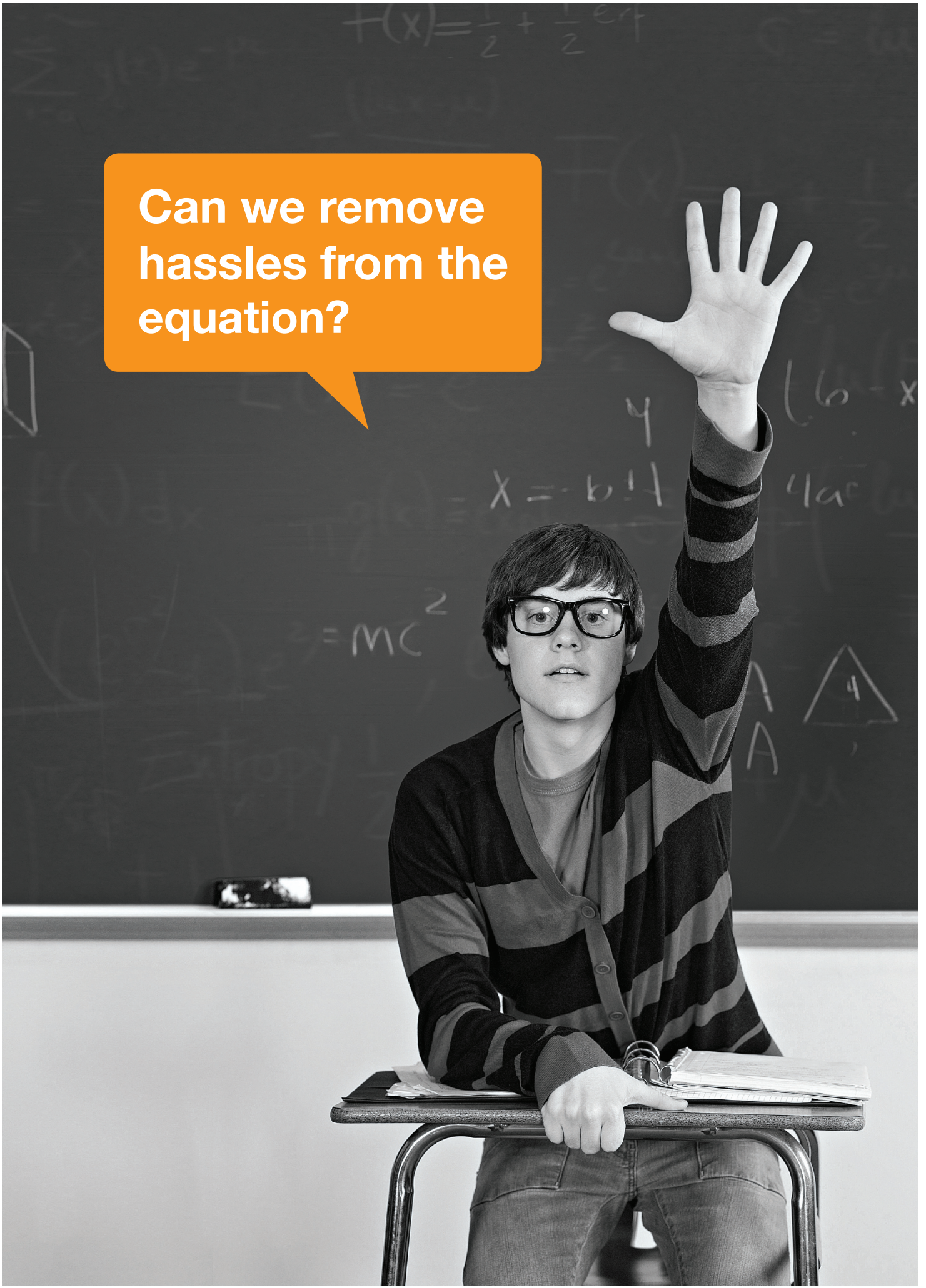
Ottawa has come under fire for the slow flow of dollars since the $4 billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund was announced in the January budget.

Many GTA municipalities say they haven't received any formal contribution agreements from Ontario, which is responsible for distributing the federal cash — making them tentative about going ahead with their list of projects.

In June, Ottawa and the province announced funding for nearly 1,200 projects across Ontario.

Some municipalities — York, Halton and Peel regions, as well as Mississauga, Brampton, Markham, Richmond Hill and Oakville — have been reluctant to go ahead without signed agreements, though the construction season is passing quickly.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE


Can we remove hassles from the equation?

Pine beetle could hit Alberta real estate values: Report

A new report says the destructive mountain pine beetle may take a bite out of the real estate market in parts of Alberta. The Real Estate Investment Network says the beetle infestation could affect communities that depend on the struggling forest industry, some of which have already faced mill closures and job losses. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

N.S. finances gloomy: Minister

Nova Scotia Finance Minister Graham Steele says the province's finances are in worse shape than what was presented by the previous Tory government. Steele says the results of an external audit show there is a risk of running an annual deficit of $1.3 billion by 2012-2013 if nothing changes. He says current spending cannot be sustained because of flat or declining revenue due to the recession and lower offshore and equalization payments. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Double-dip' recession fears spread

Suspicions arising that government stimulus will not contribute to lasting growth

Fears of a "double-dip" recession surfaced again yesterday as investors and economists expressed concern that massive government stimulus has succeeded in stabilizing economies, but failed to trigger lasting growth.

The growing suspicion that recent advances in several big economies are not sustainable swamped the good news yesterday that Japan technically emerged from its longest slump in 60 years by posting an impressive 0.9 per cent advance — 3.7 per cent annualized — in the second quarter.

Last week, Germany and France also reported positive growth in the second quarter, officially ending their recessions.

"The recovery is basically on the back of massive fiscal (government) stimulus," noted economist Sal Guatieri of BMO Capital Markets.

"We should be happy relative to where we were three months ago with the global economy on a landslide downward, (but) we're still far from durable, strong recovery."

"We should be happy relative to where we were three months ago ... (but) we're still far from durable, strong recovery."
Sal Guatieri, BMO Capital Markets

In a television interview yesterday, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty underlined the importance of his government's actions in supporting the economy, saying Canadians are starting to see an increase in construction activity from the federal infrastructure fund.

The worry, however, is that when the trillions of dollars countries are pouring into their economies run out sometime next year, whatever growth generated from the artificial spending will disappear, plunging the world into a second slump — hence the term "double-dip," or "W-shaped" recovery.

Derek Holt, vice-president of economics at Scotiabank, calculates the odds of a double-dip occurring late this year or early in the next at about 70 per cent.

His reasoning is that economies are currently being driven by both government stimulus and the "one-shot wonder" of expanded production to restock inventories, both temporary phenomena.

While there remain reasons for encouragement, economists say, not until consumers return to a buying mood, particularly those in the United States, can it be declared in any meaningful way that the worst global downturn since the Second World War has ended.

And that has not occurred yet, they add.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

H1N1 flu talk dominates doctors' meeting

PLANNING Canada's health minister says doctors need to stand together with the federal government to face a possible resurgence of influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, this fall, but physicians say they need more help from Ottawa.

Leona Aglukkaq told doctors at the Canadian Medical Association's annual meeting in Saskatoon yesterday that they have a key role to play in preventing the spread of the virus, in treatment and in educating patients.

She added that Ottawa is working with drug maker GlaxoSmithKline to develop a safe and effective vaccine. One is on track to be ready by November, she said. But some at the meeting say Aglukkaq's speech lacked details that could help doctors and patients.

GEOFF HOWE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federal Health Minister Leona Aqlukkaq speaks to Canadian Medical Association members at their annual meeting in Saskatoon yesterday.

Dr. Robert Ouellet, the outgoing president of the Canadian Medical Association, acknowledged that Aglukkaq's speech was short on details. He told reporters that doctors really want to see a vaccine plan that includes who should get the vaccine first.

"We need to have that. The primary doctors, they need to have information," said Ouellet.

"We're aware that there is some work on that, but she didn't say what they were doing precisely."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada needs 'health czar' for response to flu: Journal

PANDEMIC Canada needs an independent health czar to co-ordinate the country's response to influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, the Canadian Medical Association Journal said yesterday.

In an editorial signed by editor-in-chief Dr. Paul Hebert, the journal called for the appointment of someone who would serve as an independent "national champion" with the necessary legislative powers to be able to facilitate the response across provincial and territorial boundaries.

The position would have different — and broader — powers than those of the current federal point person for pandemic response, Canada's chief public health officer Dr. David Butler-Jones.

"That's definitely not David's job. I mean, it could be. But it's not set up that way. And arguably that's the issue," Hebert said in an interview.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

COURT Natalie Tippett, the wife of an eastern Ontario man charged with abducting and sexually assaulting a 12-year-old girl, said yesterday that she stands by him and is optimistic as his trial gets underway. Stanley Tippett has pleaded not guilty.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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B.C. warehouse explodes in giant fireballs

A fire and series of explosions at a warehouse in Fort St., John, B.C., have forced several mobile home residents to evacuate. The cause of the explosion, which sent giant fireballs about 150 metres into the air on Sunday evening, is not yet known. THE CANADIAN PRESS

No pet food regulation: Feds

More than two years after a massive recall of tainted pet food, the federal government maintains that the domestic pet food industry should continue to police itself.

ANDREW WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Susan Adams-Wauro poses with her dog Tessa at her Oakville home. Adams-Wauro gave up on commercial pet food, which some believe needs to be regulated by the federal government.

And although some new rules came into force this summer, veterinarians and pet owners wonder if Ottawa has done enough to prevent a repeat of the events that led to the death of hundreds of North American cats and dogs.

In March 2007, Mississauga-based Menu Foods recalled 60 million cans and pouches of pet food made in the United States and sold under 95 brand names. The food was found to contain wheat gluten from China contaminated with the chemical melamine.

At the time, then-agriculture minister Chuck Strahl pointed out the tainting occurred even though the U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates pet food quality and manufacturing south of the border.

At Ottawa's request, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency consulted the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, the pet food industry and other government officials to see whether more regulation was needed. The vets' association used to run a voluntary pet food certification program but abandoned it in 2007 after two manufacturers pulled out.

Francine Lord, the food safety agency's deputy chief veterinary officer and director of the terrestrial animal health division, said in an interview that the Health of Animals Act, the federal law governing animals and their by-products, is strong enough to ensure safety.

Oakville resident Susan Adams-Wauro gave up on commercial pet food more than a decade ago and uses a barley mix to make her own food for her dog, Tessa.

"It was not a surprise," she said of the melamine scandal. Canadians should "have our own regulations, our own set of standards."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Key to Arctic sovereignty Inuit, not military: Critics

NUNAVUT Prime Minister Stephen Harper should look beyond the military in the quest for Arctic sovereignty, critics reminded him yesterday as his aircraft was due to touch down in Iqaluit, Nunavut.

A northern economic and cultural agency urged the Conservative government to fully implement the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, saying strong communities are the best way to advance Canadian ownership of the Far North.

"The current emphasis on military presence overlooks the historical reality," said James Eetoolook, vice-president of Nunavut Tungavik Inc., which is based in Iqaluit.

People have thus far built the North through trade as well as other means and, without the Inuit, there "would be no Canadian flag flying the Arctic," he said.

The land-claims agreement, struck in 1993, was the basis for the creation of the territory of Nunavut 10 years ago.

Under the terms, jurisdiction over some matters was transferred to the new territorial government, including wildlife management, land use and development, and property taxation.

"It makes us both partners for the future," Eetoolook said in a statement. "But often we feel like the forgotten partner, or even the invisible partner."

The prime minister's office also plans announcements in Yellowknife and Whitehorse on Harper's third trip to the Far North since he became prime minister. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Development

- The Conservatives have promised to establish a northern development agency and earlier this year committed $10 million a year toward the organization.

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Stressed plants boosting global warming?

STUDY Plants stressed by drought and rising temperatures brought on by global warming may actually release more greenhouse gases into the environment, says research from the University of Calgary.

Scientists looked at the methane levels emitted by six crops grown in Canada: faba beans, sunflowers, peas, canola, barley and wheat.

They measured the amount of methane emitted by the plants normally, and under conditions simulated to mimic global warming, including higher temperatures, drought and increased ultraviolet-B radiation.

"I've been of the opinion for some time that methane is somewhat ignored, and I think it's just as important as carbon dioxide in the whole global warming debate," said author David Reid.

Under normal conditions, the crops emitted different amounts of methane, he said, although the levels were quite small for all.

The amount of methane went up different degrees under global warming conditions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Methane gas

- Methane is a greenhouse gas that traps heat at a much higher rate than carbon dioxide.

News in brief

ACID RAIN Alberta has cut funding for tests to determine how much acid rain is falling in the oilsands region around Fort McMurray. A briefing note for the Alberta environment minister obtained by The Canadian Press says that no testing has been done on precipitation since April. That's even though the note admits that precipitation in the region now meets Environment Canada's definition of acid rain.

IGNATIEFF An anonymous opponent is targeting Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff with a rather pricey political prank laundered through a BBC mailing address. Members of the parliamentary press gallery recently received a mass mailing of plain brown manila envelopes, postmarked London. Inside was a colour reproduction of a critical, four-year-old Ignatieff profile in the British publication New Humanist.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Byelection coming in Alberta

The Alberta government has called a byelection in the Calgary-Glenmore riding for Sept. 14. The seat became vacant last May when former deputy premier Ron Stevens resigned prior to his appointment as an Alberta Court of Queen's Bench justice. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Woman made up story, cops allege

A Fredericton-area woman made up a story about being abducted at gunpoint and forced to drive to Toronto, RCMP in New Brunswick alleged yesterday.

Marcia Simmons, 44, of Noonan, N.B., was reported missing by family members earlier this month after she failed to pick up her teenaged daughter.

Simmons initially told police she had gone to a Woodstock, N.B., campground to get a campsite for her and her daughter when a man hopped into her SUV, flashed a firearm and told her to drive to Toronto.

"We don't know why this happened."
Sgt. Claude Tremblay

Police allege there was in fact no abduction and that Simmons went to Toronto for personal reasons.

"We don't know why this happened. We were not told exactly why the victim went to Toronto. She is keeping that to herself," RCMP Sgt. Claude Tremblay said. "She was interviewed several times ... The story we were given was not matching the evidence we had."

Tremblay said police expended much time and resources on the case over two weeks, and have now referred it to prosecutors to decide if any charges are warranted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Via Rail fire forces 300 to walk tracks

TRAIN BLAZE Hundreds of Via Rail passengers were evacuated from a burning locomotive and forced to trudge about two kilometres through the bush near Ottawa on Sunday, a journey that saw more than a dozen treated for minor injuries.

The engine of the Toronto-to-Ottawa train caught fire near Richmond, Ont., at about 8 p.m. ET., and more than 300 passengers had to walk along the tracks to the nearest road to board buses to finish their journey.

Smoke

- The train's two engineers were treated at the scene for smoke inhalation and taken to hospital to be assessed, said Jean-Pierre Trottier of the Ottawa Paramedic Service.

At least 13 required treatment for bug bites, allergic reactions and some minor bumps and bruises.

Ottawa police Const. Alain Boucher said it "didn't appear to be a very big incident, although there were many people."

He added the "operation went well."

Some of the passengers were treated for anxiety, but most were just "slightly annoyed" by the whole experience, said the Ottawa Paramedic Service.

The train had left Toronto at 3:35 p.m. ET and was scheduled to arrive in Ottawa just after 8 p.m. ET.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Unmarried Quebec mother to fight alimony ruling

COMMON-LAW A lawyer for an unmarried woman who had three children with a wealthy Quebecer is appealing a court ruling that denied her alimony rights.

Lawyer Anne-France Goldwater said she was going to file the appeal yesterday to challenge the Quebec Superior Court decision.

Justice Carole Hallee ruled in July the couple's relationship could not be called a marriage under the wording of federal or provincial legislation.

Quebec is the only province that does not recognize common-law unions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Kuwait newspapers allege ex-wife was wedding arsonist

Kuwaiti authorities have apprehended a person suspected of setting fire to a wedding tent and killing 41 people. They said yesterday the motive was personal. Local newspapers reported the groom's ex-wife was the arsonist. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

World's oldest pupil dies

A Kenyan man who was believed to be the world's oldest pupil has died at the age of 89, five years after he entered primary school so that he could learn to read the Bible, his family said yesterday. Joseph Stephen Kimani Nganga Maruge died Friday at the Kariobangi Cheshire Home for the aged in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi. He died of stomach cancer, said his granddaughter, Anne Maruge. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama blasts 'exotic projects'

POLITICS U.S. President Barack Obama yesterday lashed special interests and their "exotic projects" that he said drain the defence budget of money needed for U.S. military forces battling everything from nuclear weapons to "18th century-style piracy and 21st-century cyber threats."

Obama

Going after lawmakers as well, he said, "If Congress sends me a defence bill loaded with that kind of waste, I will veto it."

As he thanked America's veterans and praised U.S. fighting forces who continue making heavy sacrifices in wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Obama spoke harshly of a "defence establishment (that) has yet to fully adapt to the post-Cold War world." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

RUSSIA A suicide bomber attacked a police station in Russia's North Caucasus with an explosives-laden truck yesterday, killing at least 20 people and wounding more than 100 others, officials said.

CHINA Police clashed with residents of two neighbouring villages in northern China where nearly all the children were poisoned by lead apparently from a nearby smelter, reports said yesterday.

WEATHER Hurricane Bill picked up strength in the Atlantic as it churned on a path toward Bermuda. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Voters defy Taliban threats

Afghans attend campaign rallies, vow to go to polls as election looms

Thousands of Afghans defied Taliban threats and attended political campaign rallies in Kandahar on the weekend, vowing to go to the polls this week to elect their president and provincial councils.

The same day that a suicide bomber blew himself up outside the NATO headquarters in Kabul, killing seven civilians, hundreds of men gathered in Kandahar city to hear from presidential candidate Ashraf Ghani, one of the main challengers of President Hamid Karzai.

The next day, Sunday, thousands of men and women gathered in support of Karzai.

The rallies were no small act of defiance in this, the spiritual birthplace of the Taliban.

RAHMAT GUL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Afghans string a line of posters of presidential candidate Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, yesterday. Afghans will head to the polls on Thursday to elect a new president.

"There was time where people of Kandahar gathered in this stadium for executions," Haji-Agha Lalai, a member of the provincial council and director of the Peace and Reconciliation office in Kandahar, told the crowd. "Today we are free and gathered to choose our leader."

"Today we are free and gathered to choose our leader."
Haji-Agha Lalai, director, Peace and Reconciliation office

Buses brought people in from regions all over the province, where so many of Canada's soldiers have lost their lives.

The commander of Canadian Forces in Kandahar is all but certain insurgents will attack on election day.

"I can absolutely assure you that there will be challenges. The Taliban will act, as they do every day," says Brig.-Gen Jonathan Vance. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Fireworks factory blast kills one

Officials say an explosion at a fireworks factory in northwestern Turkey has killed one person and wounded at least 28 others. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mystery still swirling after freighter found

The Russian-crewed freighter that sparked a high-seas mystery when it disappeared nearly three weeks ago has been found by a Russian naval frigate off the West African coast, the country's defence minister said yesterday.

PEKKA LAAKSO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Dec. 2008 file photo the cargo ship the Arctic Sea is seen in Kotka, Finland. The Russian-manned cargo ship that vanished last month in the Atlantic was found Friday.

The Arctic Sea's 15 crew members, last heard from July 28, were alive and now aboard the navy ship, Defence Minister Anatoly Serdyukov said in a meeting with President Dmitry Medvedev shown on national television.

Since the Arctic Sea sailed from the Finnish port of Pietarsaari July 21 with a $1.3 million cargo of timber, a fog of rumours, unconfirmed reports and red herrings has swirled around it. The Arctic Sea was to make port in Algeria on Aug. 4. But after it was late by more than a week, Medvedev ordered the defence ministry to use all necessary means to find the freighter.

Adding to the mystery, Russia's envoy to NATO, Dmitry Rogozin, told the ITAR-Tass news agency yesterday bogus information was deliberately provided to news media, "which did not allow them to calculate the true actions of the Russian forces."

With details still sparse, Viktor Matveyev, director of the ship's operator Solchart, said "We are all incredibly happy. Now the big work starts to find out what happened."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

MOSCOW An accident during repair work at Russia's largest hydroelectric plant yesterday killed at least 10 workers, while as many as 65 others were missing after an engine room was suddenly flooded, officials said. The cause of the accident at the Sayano-Shushenskaya plant in southern Siberia was unclear.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

NDP's challenge was never the name

NationalReport

Whew! What a dull convention. The New Democrats came together on the weekend in Halifax for their biggest party gathering in three years. Some bold moves were forecast going in. Nothing had happened going out. Bottom line — the Dippers are standing pat. There was much talk of broadening the party's reach through a name change or such initiatives as tax breaks for businesses. But in the end it was former leader Alexa McDonough who captured the mood. "The foundation of the party is rock solid," she said. There has to be change, "but what isn't going to change, is our basic values."

The party has made gains in recent elections. The Liberals, under new leadership, appear to be leaving them more room on the left side of the spectrum. Jack Layton is solid. Why take risks?

There wasn't enough momentum from the rank and file to say to heck with third place, let's try and challenge the two major parties.

To do that, changing the name to simply The Democratic Party would have been a risk worth taking. In its current form the party still has a 1960s Woodstock air. Modernization of the image is a must.

These should be ideal times for a party like the NDP. There's a recession, an unpopular war, an environmental crisis with global warming. They are all issues that play to the left.

But besides having the image of an old party they are also saddled with the problem of a lack of media presence. The New Democrats have no big media to sell their message — to sing their song. There's a national newspaper of the right, the National Post.

There's one for the centre, the Globe and Mail. There's none for the left. In recent times the Canadian media has drifted to the right. The NDP is largely ignored — even when the issues of the day run in their favour.

To change this they have to find a way of gaining ownership of media properties.

But lefties don't have deep pockets.

Big money runs big media — and that isn't going to change.

Lawrence Martin is a journalist and author of 10 books who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

Views

Education or invasion? Take your pick against extremism

GlobalView

What's a more potent antidote to extremism: Invasions and guns or money for schools?

That was not a trick question and you don't get gold stars for the right answer.

Activists have long told us that getting an education was a great way out of poverty and a crucial ally to economic growth. So it was good to read last week that Canada plans to send Pakistan more aid with a special emphasis on bolstering the Pakistani education system. About time.

For a stark and bloody reminder of where parents turn when public education fails their children, remember the siege at Lal Masjid standoff in 2007 — not in a remote part of Pakistan but in the capital, Islamabad. Two radical brothers established a Taliban-style compound that taught its students the virtues of vigilantism and suicide bombings. More than 100 people, including women and children, died after a bloody standoff with government forces.

Schoolgirls who survived were sent back home — many to rural areas without schools for them — where they told reporters they missed their books and where they passed on what they had learned to village children.

Parents wouldn't have sent their girls and boys to the Lal Masjid compound if there were schools nearby.

That gap has been filled by the now notorious "madrassas." Unlike secular schools, "madrassas" focus on religious education. That isn't the problem. Rather, it's who funds them.

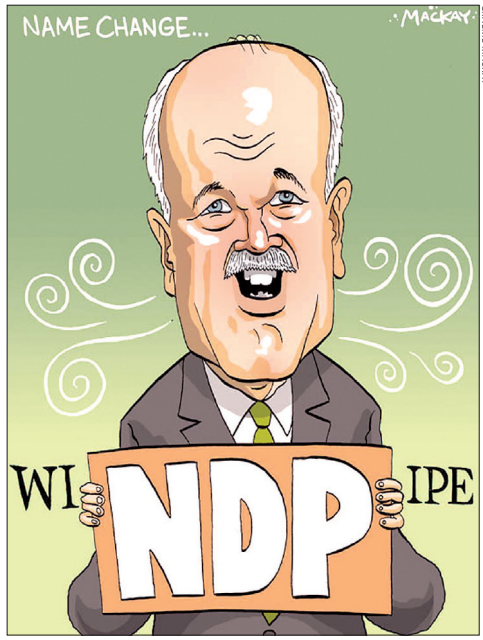
Not everyone who goes to a madrassa blows himself up, but I am not naïve enough to think they're all about love and God either.

If poor governments don't invest enough in schools, you can be sure boys get priority when they do. It's either harsh reality — boys can work and support family — or misogyny — in May, 90 Afghan girls were hospitalized with five slipping briefly into comas after the Taliban staged the third poison gas attack in as many weeks on girls' schools. Sometimes it's both.

In a 2004 report, the U.S.-based Council on Foreign Relations explained why girls' education was worth the investment: it delivers huge returns for economic growth, political participation, women's health, more sustainable families, and disease prevention.

Surely returns like that deserve gold stars?

Mona Eltahawy is an award-winning Egyptian-born commentator and public speaker on Arab and Muslim issues. She reported on the Middle East for 10 years before moving to the U.S.



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Low-cost airline Ryanair cuts routes

Irish low-cost airline Ryanair Plc. said yesterday it will cut most of its routes out of Manchester Airport with the loss of up to 600 jobs. The Dublin-based carrier said some of the routes will be switched to other airports in northern England. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
US 90.32¢	US $3.16	US $66.75	10,531.59
US 0.61¢	US 7.5¢	US 76¢	316.42

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Stocks tumble as euphoria dims

The Toronto stock market joined indexes around the world in a sharp selloff yesterday as investors sold off across all sectors on worries that the American consumer won't be much help in building a strong economic recovery.

The S&P/TSX composite index fell 316.42 points or 2.92 per cent to 10,531.59 with losses paced by a drop of more than three per cent in the energy sector as crude prices fell back on demand concerns.

Evidence of weakness on the consumer front surfaced Friday in a falloff in the Reuters-University of Michigan consumer sentiment index, which followed a surprisingly weak July retail sales report.

3.27% The TSX energy sector fell 3.27 per cent as crude oil on the New York market fell to $66.75 US a barrel.

Economic worries pushed the TSX down 0.35 per cent last week, snapping a four-week-long winning streak. The move left the main index up over 40 per cent since the lows of early March, but after rallying for months on expectations of an economic recovery, investors now fear they've been too optimistic given consumers' continuing reluctance to spend.

"When I look forward, I don't see the euphoria that the market has been pricing into itself," said Gareth Watson, director, Canadian equities Portfolio Advisory Group. "Not to say that the market can't grow, not to say we won't recover, because we will recover, but the expectations have been too high and we are tempering those expectations today." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fortune says RIM growing fastest

HONOUR American business magazine Fortune has named Canadian technology icon Research in Motion Ltd., maker of the BlackBerry, the world's fastest-growing company.

Waterloo, Ont.-based RIM — one of Canada's most valuable companies with a stock worth of $44 billion — was one of two Canadian businesses that made the top 10 after Fortune opened its 100 Fastest-Growing Companies list to non-American businesses for the first time.

Potash Corp. of Saskatchewan, the world's biggest fertilizer company, came 10th.

RIM, founded in 1984, has more than quadrupled its workforce in the last four years and expects to have about 12,000 employees by the end of the year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Rio Tinto to sell packaging assets?

SALE Rio Tinto is reportedly set to announce the sale of Alcan's non-beauty aluminum packaging assets to Australia's Amcor Ltd. for $2 billion US.

Melbourne-based Amcor, the world's largest maker of plastic soft drink bottles, acknowledged in February that it was in talks to purchase a portion of the packaging assets.

Amcor operates bottle PET plants in Mississauga, Moncton, N.B. and Brampton. Rio Tinto has about 500 employees at five packaging plants in Canada: Brampton (beauty sector), Woodbridge, Ont. (tobacco and pharma sector), Lachine, Que., Baie d'Urfe, Que. and Saint-Cesaire, Que. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lowe's Weak sales hit profit

MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. home-improvement retailer Lowe's Cos. yesterday said second-quarter earnings fell 19 per cent on weaker-than-expected sales, adding fresh fuel to doubts about the ability and willingness of consumers to lead the economy out of recession.

Reader's Digest to file for Chapter 11 amid ad slump

MEDIA The publisher of Reader's Digest, the popular general interest magazine, said yesterday it will file for Chapter 11 protection with a plan to swap a portion of its debt for ownership of the company.

Reader's Digest Association Inc., owned by the New York private equity firm Ripplewood Holdings since 2007, said it has reached an agreement in principle with a majority of secured lenders to erase a portion of the $1.6 billion US they hold. The lenders will get ownership in return.

Search for niche

• Reader's Digest, the monthly magazine founded in 1922 as a collection of condensed articles from other publications, has been searching for a niche as the Internet upends the magazine industry's traditional business models.

The planned filing, which does not include operations outside the United States, comes amid declining circulation, an industrywide advertising slump and large debts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Germans discuss future of Opel

AUTOS German state and federal government officials met in Berlin yesterday to discuss the future of General Motors Co.'s unit Opel, for which two rival bids have been proposed, including one from Canadian auto parts giant Magna International.

Chancellor Angela Merkel on Friday reiterated the government's preference for an offer from a consortium led by Magna and Russian lender Sberbank. Neither Magna nor the competing bidder, investment company Brussels-based RHJ International SA, attended the meeting. No statements were made after the meeting.

Jobs

• Magna has said it would likely cut some 11,600 positions at Opel, which employs about 25,000 people.

Economy Ministry spokesman Stefan Moritz said that it was an opportunity for working groups from the federal and state governments to come together to analyze both offers more closely. He said, however, that the final decision on which to accept lies with General Motors. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Aeterna's stock takes steep drop

DRUG Pharmaceutical company Aeterna Zentaris Inc. had one of its worst trading days in its history as its shares plunged more than 61 per cent yesterday after studies questioned the benefit of its treatment for an enlarged prostate.

The Quebec-based company said yesterday that Phase 3 efficacy testing of cetrorelix pamoate, a product at the heart of a partnership with French pharmaceutical giant Sanofi-Aventis, showed no significant difference between the drug and a placebo.

Aeterna stock fell $1.90 to $1.21 with some six million shares changing hands in trading. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Interest rates/Savings accounts
METRO NEWS SERVICES

BMO	CIBC	HSBC	ICICI	ING	PCF	RBC	SBIC	Scotia	TD
0.8%	0.75%	1.0%	1.4%	1.2%	0.75%	0.75%	1.25%	0.75%	0.75%

Note: Please check bank websites as some rates require a minimum account balance.

Your Money

EDITOR: NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Your wine or mine?

AlisonOnMoney

Alison Griffiths

metronews.ca/alisononmoney

Here's my end-of-summer garden party nightmare; a brimming glass of the host's homemade wine and me attempting to keep the wince out of every sip.

One thing about a recession though, it opens your mind to what you didn't think you would ever want to do or drink.

Early summer found me in the fruit scented quarters of Just Wine in Milton, Ont. I had driven by the place for 10 years and never once been tempted.

But I love my wine and despite a reported glut of the good grape plus a global economic meltdown, wine prices haven't declined perceptibly.

So, I bravely ordered two kits, 30 bottles of the best Australian Chardonnay and 30 more of the Napa Valley Stag's Leap District Merlot, part of the Selection Estate series distributed by Wine Expert of B.C.

Both claimed gold medals in some tasting or other and both were the most expensive of their kind available in the store. If you are going to do it yourself buy the best available.

Even so, the cost per bottle was under $5 for the white and under $7 for the red (that doesn't include optional labels, 10 cents each, or bottles, $1.10. You can also supply your own.)

Six weeks later I spent a happy hour bottling the chardonnay and two weeks after that, the merlot. Tasting both during bottling surprised me. Drinkable!

However, getting the most out of your vintner experience demands the patience to wait a minimum of three months for the white and six for the merlot.

If all works out I estimate savings of at least $2,500 a year — enough to take hubby and me on a very nice wine tasting holiday. Stay tuned for full tasting results in a couple of months.

Alison Griffiths is a financial journalist, author and host of Maxed Out on the W Network. Write to her at alison@alisongriffiths.ca.

Clarification

- **In my August 4 column about retail credit cards and Buy Now Pay Later purchases, the proximity of two paragraphs made it seem that The Brick charges accumulated interest if full payment is not made on the expiry of the interest and payment-free period. This is the case with some retailers but not The Brick. We apologize for any misunderstanding about The Brick's policies that may have occurred.**

Readers on the recession

MoneyMatters

Henry Choo Chong

metronews.ca/moneymatters

Q Readers were asked: How are you managing in this economic environment?

A I work for GM and have not worked 40 hours for more than four months. This is after more than 16 years at the plant. My wife makes half my salary and covers our mortgage. **— Carl**

A I am an independent IT consultant for more than eight years. My most recent contract with Rogers was not renewed. My understanding, as confirmed with other fellow IT colleagues, independents are the first to go. Recently, I accepted a contract at 30 per cent below my last position. My car and house payments have not changed and must be paid every month. **— Ahmad**

A The Toronto real estate market experienced about three months of a slowdown. Housing prices and sales are on the rise. Based on my experience, the market is brewing and it is a good time buy. Good agents do well, regardless of the market. **— Paul**

A My husband lost his job December 2008 and did not find work until June. We were deeply distressed and did not know what we would do. We have two children. I must thank my financial adviser at our TD branch for introducing us to a program that helps defer and refinance our mortgage. **— Coleen and Darin**

Thank you to all readers for your emails.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, can be reached at choochonghcga@yahoo.ca and 416-485-5225.

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Investing

Allan Small

Allan Small discusses contradictions in the market, which can confuse investors. Visit metronews.ca/investing

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Did you know?
Canadians are saving a mere 4.7 per cent of their take-home pay, according to a recent report from Statistics Canada for the first quarter of 2009. NEWS CANADA

Student ¢ents

Scholarly costs
Expect to spend about $1,000 per year for books and school supplies. If you are entering a specialized course such as dentistry, medicine or architecture, expect a much higher cost. NEWS CANADA

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

‘It’s time to chart your own course’

Good planning can help build rosy financial future

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

While universities may appear to be debt-making machines, financial advisers say good planning can have you graduating in the black.

Anna Conner of Sun Life Financial says it’s possible if you follow three rules: Find yourself financially, stop the leaks, and save/invest. To be extra safe, protect that investment with life insurance.

“Start with a plan,” she says. “You have a goal: To graduate with your degree. You have to figure out how you are going to do that from a monetary point of view.”

Ideally, pay for university out of your savings, costing nothing in interest. If you don’t have tens of thousands of spare dollars, you’ll need a student loan.

Financially, “you have to know where you’re starting from to be able to get where you’re going,” she says. “You have to open up your bank statement, your credit card statement.”

It’s tempting to throw it in the drawer and just make the minimum payment, but that adds up. “Look at it this way: Every time you pay off a 16 per cent interest rate credit card debt, you’ve just made 16 per cent return on your money,” Conner says.

> **“You’ll be amazed at how much money you’re leaking. Stop the leaks.”**
> Anna Conner

Next, Conner recommends tracking all of your expenses for two months. “You’ll be amazed at how much money you’re leaking,” she says. “Stop the leaks.”

With your economic ship patched up, it’s time to chart your course. For short-term savings to cover a down payment for a home or to pay down a debt, Conner likes TFSAs (tax-free savings accounts).

“You can do it in a short-term money market so that you have fluid cash and can draw your money out very quickly, or you can invest it for a longer range in things like mutual funds, GICs, etc.,” she explains.

Experts suggest you put away 10 per cent of your earnings — even if you’re a student.

If you can put the money away for longer, invest. “I’m a firm believer in getting your money into the markets at a young age,” she says. People get scared by the bad bear runs, she says, but the bulls always win. “Over the last 50 years, we’ve had about a 10 per cent return,” she says. “For young people, you’ve got the ability to allow the markets to do their thing.”

Either way, 10 per cent of earnings — even as a student — should be socked away.

Finally, consider buying life insurance to guarantee your future insurability.

“When you’re young and healthy, it’s extremely inexpensive to pick up a cheap-term insurance that will carry them through until they can afford the Cadillac,” she says.

If you wait 10 years, developing diabetes or MS, or a range of other conditions, could make getting life insurance next to impossible.

Hana, a blogger at York University’s YUBlog, says the most important thing is to live thriftily. Live at home, take public transit, pack a lunch, throw house parties and buy second-hand, she urges.

“For most of us, being a student is synonymous to being short on cash for four years, but there are a few ways to make the pinch more bearable,” she writes.

Low-cost accounts

You have probably heard the expression “look after your nickels and dimes, and the dollars will take care of themselves.” In order to collect those dollars, low-cost bank accounts can represent an interesting solution.

Low-cost bank accounts cost less than $4 a month. They offer such features as a debit card, cheque-writing privileges, a number of free in-branch transactions, and a monthly statement or a bankbook.

As several banks have agreed to offer low-cost accounts, you should shop around for the kind of account that best suits your banking needs. For example, you may prefer to do your banking through a teller. Some banks may charge extra for some in-branch services (such as bill payments) on top of your regular monthly fee. Having this type of information can save you from any surprise fees on your bank statement at the end of the month.

To make sure you understand the terms and conditions of the account you choose, the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada recommends you find out:

- What the monthly fees are;
- What types of transactions are included, and how many;
- How much it will cost for transactions over and above your monthly limit;
- What extra fees may apply for specific services (such as bill payments).

NEWS CANADA

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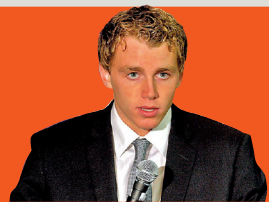
Craig Forrest joins It's Called Football
Sportsnet soccer analyst and former England premiership goaltender Craig Forrest joined the It's Called Football show today to talk premiership, MLS and the future of the Canadian Soccer Association, watch at **metronews.ca/blogs**

Sports



Kane apologizes

Chicago Blackhawks star Patrick Kane, left, apologized yesterday for the pain he caused those close to him after his arrest on charges that he and a cousin beat up a cab driver in Buffalo earlier this month. He did not take questions. A grand jury is expected to decide this week whether Kane should face criminal charges in connection with the incident. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

One Canadian remains

Canadian content at the US$2-million Rogers Cup took a hit with three first-round singles losses on Monday, leaving only Aleksandra Wozniak of Blainville, Que., left in the tournament.

Stephanie Dubois, of Laval, Que., who made the third round of the tournament in 2006 and 2008 when it was played in Montreal, Heidi El Tabakh of Oakville, Ont., and Valerie Tetreault of Montreal all lost first-round matches at the Rexall Centre.

The 22-year-old Dubois, ranked 112th, double-faulted three times in the opening game of her match against Italy's Roberta Vinci and lost 6-1, 6-2.

The 194th ranked El Tabakh, 22, took 17th-ranked Samantha Stosur of Australia to two tie-breakers in losing 7-6 (2), 7-6 (4).

DARREN CALABRESE / THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stephanie Dubois of Laval, Que., right, and Roberta Vinci of Italy shake hands after their first round match yesterday at the Rogers Cup. Dubois lost to Vinci in straight sets.

Tetreault, 21, ranked 161st, lost 6-2, 6-4 to Agnes Szavay of Hungary.

"I did great at the Rogers Cup for the past four years," Dubois said. "So this for me is a little bit disappointing."

Wozniak, Canada's top-ranked women's player, meets Russia's Alisa Kleybanova today.

Dubois, who reached the second round in 2007 when the event was held in Toronto, had her serve broken seven times by Vinci.

"I didn't really serve well today," she said. "It was not a good day for me."

El Tabakh, who began playing tennis at the age of eight in Egypt where she was born, was victorious in qualifying to earn a spot in the first round. She had the support of her brother, Meeto, a player at the University of Illinois, who was on hand to coach her.

"I was a little bit nervous before the match, but I got out there and didn't think about it too much," she said. "I got broke in the first game and thought if I think about it I'll be too nervous, so I didn't think about it and it was a very close first set; second set too." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Monica Seles honoured on opening night of Rogers Cup

TENNIS The past, present and potential future of tennis were on display last night in an entertaining exhibition match at the Rogers Cup.

Former stars Martina Navratilova and Monica Seles graced the stadium court at the Rexall Centre, joined by 2001 tournament champion Serena Williams and rising Canadian star Aleksandra Wozniak.

> **"The amazing times that I had here in Toronto ... I love playing here, so it holds a special place in my heart."** Monica Seles

Navratilova and Williams earned a 6-3 victory over Seles and Wozniak in the one-set exhibition, in front of an enthusiastic crowd that enjoyed clear skies and balmy temperatures.

The match coincided with Seles's induction into the Rogers Cup Hall of Fame, a fitting honour for the only woman in the last century to win four straight Canadian championships. After the quartet posed for post-match pictures, Seles was honoured on the court and fought back tears as she watched a video tribute highlighting her success in Canada. She then posed for more photos in front of her Hall of Fame plaque.

"As soon as I got the invitation, I was like, 'Yes, I have to do this," said Seles. "The amazing times that I had here in Toronto … I love playing here, so it holds a special place in my heart." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Travel Oct 3 - Oct 11/ts + taxes & fees $326

London $199
Travel Oct 23 - Oct 30/ts + taxes & fees $387

Amsterdam & Manchester $299
Travel Oct 7 - Oct 17/ts + taxes & fees $390
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San Francisco $399
Travel Oct 14 - Oct 21/aa + taxes & fees $130

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Travel Oct 17 - Oct 28/ac + taxes & fees $219

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 4 nights 4-star accom on the Las Vegas Strip. Departs Sep 28/swg/wg.

New York Weekend $489
Marriott Downtown + taxes & fees $120
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 3 nights 3-star downtown Marriott accom. Departs Aug 27/ggv/aa. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $49 per night. **ADD** NYC Twilight cruise from $29.

California Fly & Drive $529
+ taxes & fees $140
INCLUDES airfare to San Diego, return from San Francisco and 7-day car rental with unlimited mileage to explore at your own pace. Package can operate in reverse. Departs Aug 24/ggv/aa. **ADD** Napa Valley Wine Country Explorer Pass from $59.

Italy Fly & Rail $649
Eurail Italy Pass + taxes & fees $302
INCLUDES roundtrip to Rome airfare and 4-day rail pass to explore Italy at your own pace. Travel Sep 6 - 25/ggv/ts.

London City Break $797
Royal National + taxes & fees $404
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 6 nights 3-star central accom with breakfast. Departs Sep 3/acv/ac.

Sun Holidays

CANCUN 4-STAR $485
Oasis Cancun + taxes & fees $277
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom. Departs Sep 16/swg/wg.

Cuba 4-Star $397
Oasis Brisas Santa Lucia + taxes & fees $205
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom in Santa Lucia. Departs Sep 18/nol/ts.

Varadero 4-Star $425
Arenas Doradas + taxes & fees $210
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom. Departs Sep 22/swg/wg.

Puerto Plata 4-Star $447
Bahia Principe San Juan + taxes & fees $320
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom. Departs Sep 24/nol/ts.

Cayo Coco 4-Star $465
Oasis Playa Coco + taxes & fees $210
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Prospal joins Rangers

The New York Rangers signed free-agent Vaclav Prospal yesterday. Terms of the deal were not announced. Prospal, 34, had 19 goals and 26 assists with Tampa Bay last season. The Lightning bought out the last three years of Prospal's four-year contract earlier this summer. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Raptors send Delfino, Ukic to Bucks

The Toronto Raptors have agreed to send swingman Carlos Delfino to Milwaukee in exchange for power forward Amir Johnson as part of a four-player trade, a person with direct knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press yesterday.

The deal would also send guard Roko Ukic to Milwaukee in exchange for Bucks guard Sonny Weems.

The person spoke to AP on condition of anonymity because the deal has not been completed.

The deal was first reported by ESPN.com.

Delfino, a native of Argentina, played his first three seasons in Detroit before being traded to Toronto, where he averaged a career-best nine points and 4.4 rebounds per game in the 2007-08 season.

Delfino played in Russia last season, but the Raptors retained his rights.

Johnson became more expendable when the Bucks signed Hakim Warrick, a move that came after Memphis rescinded its qualifying offer to the restricted free agent.

Delfino was unlikely to find playing time in Toronto after the Raptors made a slew of off-season moves that included trading for Hedo Turkoglu, signing free agent Jarrett Jack and drafting DeMar DeRozan out of Southern California.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Olympics Canada's new threads

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hockey Canada President and CEO Bob Nicholson speaks after Team Canada's Olympic jerseys were unveiled yesterday in Vancouver. Canada was forced to come up with a new jersey design for 2010 because national sports federations are no longer allowed to display their logos at the Games.

Chiefs add Lelie
The Kansas City Chiefs have signed free agent wide receiver Ashley Lelie. The Chiefs yesterday said they signed the seven-year veteran, who has caught 217 passes for 3,749 yards and 15 touchdowns over 107 games. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Liverpool playing catch-up already

Liverpool will want to correct its organizational deficiencies and overcome the lethargy shown in its opening-round loss at Tottenham when the Reds host Stoke tomorrow in the English Premier League.

Having lost 2-1 to Spurs on Sunday, Liverpool is already playing catch-up with title rivals Manchester United, Arsenal and Chelsea after they all enjoyed winning starts.

Losing at White Hart Lane repeated last November's outcome there and the Reds, last season's runners-up, will be hoping Stoke also doesn't frustrate them like last season.

"It won't be easy against Stoke because they will get men behind the ball and they won't give us space," midfielder Lucas Leiva said. "We had two draws against them last season, so we know what to expect."

Benitez was angered by the referee's failure to award a second penalty on Sunday, but the Spaniard accepted his team was poor.

"Clearly, we did not play well — we are disappointed," Benitez said. "You saw in the second half more character and we were a threat, but it was still not enough. I think we were not comfortable because we were not well organized."

Liverpool's problems included the failure of Fernando Torres to make an impact. He appeared weary after having represented Spain at the Confederations Cup in June, a second straight off-season spent on national-team duty after the Spaniards won the 2008 European Championship.

There was also a lack of service for an isolated Torres with Liverpool missing the distribution of Xabi Alonso, who has joined Real Madrid.

"It's very early days in the title race and there is a long way to go, but we know we have to improve," Lucas said. "But at home we will have a lot more possession than we had (on Sunday) and hopefully we'll create more and score more goals."

Captain Steven Gerrard, who scored an equalizing penalty on Sunday, remains confident that Liverpool can win the league for the first time since 1990 after coming within four points of the Premier League title in May. "It does play on my mind how many years I've left to win it. I've turned 29 now, so I know time isn't on my side, but it's important I don't get obsessed by it," Gerrard said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barca, English clubs sweep UEFA awards nominee list

SOCCER Six players from Champions League winner Barcelona and six from English teams were nominated for the Club Footballer of the Year awards, competition organizer UEFA said yesterday.

Samuel Eto'o and Lionel Messi, whose goals helped Barcelona beat Manchester United 2-0 in the final, are nominated alongside influential midfielders Xavi Hernandez and Andres Iniesta, defender Gerard Pique and goalkeeper Victor Valdes. Eto'o has since joined Inter Milan.

For the second straight year, no Italian team is represented in the nominations.

The winners will be announced at an Aug. 27 ceremony in Monaco before the draw is made for the 32-team group phase of this season's competition. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Yang trumps Vick

Y.E. Yang's upset win over Tiger Woods in the PGA Championship was a television hit that even picked up extra viewers for CBS's interview with quarterback Michael Vick. Nielsen Media Research says its overnight measurements of American big cities found ratings for the golf tournament up 150 per cent over 2008. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Yang's major win redefines 'global golf'

PGA Champion will be household name throughout Asia: Expert

For years, Asian countries could only boast about growth and potential in men's golf. Success was measured by a half-dozen players who had cracked the top 50 in the world rankings over the last decade.

It took Y.E. Yang and his stunning victory over Tiger Woods to make them a major part of the conversation.

"We've been waiting for quite a number of years for this," said Peter Dawson, chief executive of the hallowed Royal & Ancient Golf Club in Scotland. "Perhaps the PGA Championship was not the one we were expecting. But it's great for golf. It's great for Korea. It's great for Asia. And it's very timely for getting back into the Olympics.

Y.E. Yang

"It's a fantastic day for golf."

Until the 2009 PGA Championship, players from every continent except Asia and Antarctica had captured a major championship over the last three years as "global golf" became a buzz term.

That changed Sunday at Hazeltine when Yang, a 37-year-old South Korean, delivered a shot felt across oceans. Leading by one shot against the world's No. 1 player on the 18th hole, he struck a 3-iron hybrid from 210 yards around a tree, barely over a bunker and onto the green about 12 feet from the cup.

In the immediate aftermath, the magnitude of his victory was slow to sink in.

"You never know in life," Yang said. "This might be my last win as a golfer. But it sure is a great day."

The ramifications for South Korea, not to mention all of Asia, may take years to unfold. When Woods won the 1997 Masters by a record 12 shots, many believed it would be a watershed moment for minorities on the PGA Tour. A dozen years later, he remains the tour's only player of black heritage.

The Asian community was desperate for its own champion.

"Growth happens two ways — either stars at the top pulling it up, or grassroots programs pushing it up," Dawson said.

"What Asian countries lacked is enough stars on the international stages. Let's hope it's the first of many, and not a one-off. It's not just Korea, but Japan, India, China, Thailand. They will remember Yang. He'll be a household name in Asia."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Track Jamaica finishes 1-2

MICHAEL PROBST/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jamaica's Shelley-Ann Fraser, right, celebrates after beating compatriot Kerron Stewart across the line to win the gold medal in the final of the Women's 100m at the World Athletics Championships yesterday in Berlin. Stewart took the silver medal.

Lawyer for Patrick Roy's son says he was unfairly targeted because of his celebrity

HOCKEY A former Quebec junior goaltender facing assault charges for an on-ice incident believes police unfairly targeted him because he has a famous father.

Steve Magnan, the lawyer for Jonathan Roy, son of hall-of-fame goaltender Patrick Roy, is seeking to have the case dismissed.

At a hearing Monday, Saguenay police investigator Larry Boudreault admitted other players committed violent acts during the game, but that only Roy caught the attention of police.

Magnan presented video footage that showed another fight in which Antoine Roussel of the Sagueneens suffered at least 10 punches to the head by Remparts player Maxime Lacroix.

"Do you think Roussel agreed to this fight?" he asked Boudreault who did not respond.

Magnan further suggested that all the spectators interviewed following the incident were Sagueneens season ticket holders who were sitting behind Patrick Roy.

"Did you try to talk to people who were not season ticket holders?" he asked, raising doubt about the neutrality of the investigation.

During the incident in question, the ex-Remparts player skated the length of the rink and pummelled opposing goalie Bobby Nadeau during a March 2008 game.

Magnan believes the directive was modified so that his client could be charged retroactively and he wants proceedings against Roy stopped.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rule changes

- Footage of the beating was widely broadcast on television and the Internet and was the impetus for changes to how punishments are doled out in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League for extreme violence.

T.O. returns to Bills training camp

NFL Terrell Owens is back on the practice field after the Buffalo Bills receiver missed a week nursing a sprained toe.

After taking part in a full-team, autograph-signing session before last night's practice, Owens took to the field in full gear and began stretching with his teammates. A buzz quickly circulated through the stands as fans noticed No. 81 at the Bills' training camp facility.

Owens missed four days of practice and a 27-20 win over Chicago in a pre-season game Saturday after jamming his foot in a 21-18 loss to Tennessee in the Hall of Fame Game on Aug. 9.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Smoltz released by Red Sox
John Smoltz has been released by the Boston Red Sox. The Red Sox had until Monday to trade, release or send Smoltz to the minors. General manager Theo Epstein had flown to New York on Aug. 7 to tell Smoltz he was being designated for assignment. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Snider playing waiting game

Jays rookie should be back in Toronto 'soon'

There is no question — especially after watching the Jays offence in Tampa this weekend — that rookie Travis Snider could help the struggling club keep its hold on fourth place in the American League East Division.

The only question with Snider is when management decides to bring him up.

The answer appears to be based in part on a complex financial formula related to Snider's eligibility for arbitration, and it could tell fans a lot about the club's concerns for the remainder of this season and next.

Snider almost certainly earned an immediate call up to the big leagues with his performance in Triple-A the past several weeks. He's tearing up the Pacific Coast League, batting .453 in August with seven home runs and 14 since July 6.

But Snider is rapidly approaching Super Two status, and his call up would present the Jays with a contentious financial problem.

Should Snider reach Super Two status — he needs about 50 more days in the majors to qualify — he'd be able to take the Jays to arbitration a year earlier and cost the Jays millions of dollars.

But the Jays could avoid all of this by bringing Snider up on or after Aug. 20. The club's only response for now is that Snider will be summoned "soon."

In the meantime, the Jays are fielding a team with holes at third and right field, where Snider could help since he'd either be in right or DH.

In the bigger picture, the Jays have contract negotiations coming up with shortstop Marco Scutaro and catcher Rod Barajas — players they almost certainly have to sign — and then there's the looming question regarding Roy Halladay's future.

The Jays — when they dumped B.J. Ryan, traded Scott Rolen and let Alex Rios go on waivers — said they were freeing up money for rebuilding through free agency in the off-season.

But realistically the money has always been there.

When owner Ted Rogers died last December, his financial empire was estimated to be roughly $8 billion.

The Jays payroll for 2009 was roughly $90 million (all figures U.S.), but ownership approved for up to $110 million. The only reason that amount wasn't met was because management believed it was too much to spend on a club that had already lost three-fifths of the starting rotation to long-term injury.

So, conceivably, the money is still there for free agency and a competitive pitch for Halladay.

There are questions about whether or not Paul Beeston will remain on as team president (it's believed he has a successor waiting). And whether J.P. Ricciardi will finish out the final year of his contract next season, or be replaced by assistant Alex Anthopoulos. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

Travis Snider, shown here in an early-season game with the Blue Jays, has been tearing up the Triple-A Pacific Coast League, but is unlikely to rejoin the big club before Thursday because of Major League Baseball's salary arbitration rules.

Sports in brief

BASEBALL Right-hander Hiroki Kuroda will miss his next scheduled start for the Los Angeles Dodgers while recovering from a mild concussion. The Dodgers were quite optimistic about Kuroda's prospects for a quick, full recovery after the 34-year-old Japanese pitcher participated in a range of tests after the club returned to Dodger Stadium yesterday.

WORLD CUP Brazilian tourism officials say 300,000 people will be taught English and Spanish to welcome visitors during the 2014 World Cup. The tourism ministry says it plans to spend US$8 million in a program aimed at teaching both languages to employees at hotels, bars, restaurants and other people who will be in contact with visitors.

TRACK Tyson Gay is pulling out of the 200-metre competition at the world championships because of a groin injury, preventing a rematch with Usain Bolt. The decision was announced yesterday by Team USA officials. Gay finished second to Bolt in the 100 after the Jamaican won in a world-record 9.58 seconds Sunday.

MORNEAU Minnesota first baseman Justin Morneau left the game in the bottom of the fourth inning after experiencing dizziness during the Twins' contest against the Texas Rangers last night. Morneau was hitless in two at-bats before leaving for precautionary reasons. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Olympic snub forces Baseball Canada to shift priorities

"We have to look at this program in many ways as sort of the development vehicle for our World Baseball Classic team."
Greg Hamilton, Baseball Canada

The latest, and perhaps final, rejection of baseball by the International Olympic Committee leaves the Canadian senior national team adjusting to some shifting priorities.

The program's raison d'etre in recent years was based on qualifying for and participating in the Summer Games, something Greg Hamilton and his staff at Baseball Canada accomplished successfully at the 2004 and 2008 Olympics.

They had hoped that exclusion from the 2012 Games in London was just a blip, but last week's decision by the IOC's executive committee to recommend golf and rugby sevens instead of baseball points to a longer-term exile.

So the building cycle now changes for Baseball Canada, with the World Baseball Classic becoming the top priority on the four-year calendar along with the Pan American Games and the IBAF World Cup.

The funding model also changes without the Olympics in the picture, making results at those three tournaments much more important.

"We're challenged from a performance requirement, that steps forward as being fairly significant in our funding now with no Olympics," said Hamilton, Baseball Canada's director of national teams. "That's kind of tempered by the reality that we have to look at this program in many ways as sort of the development vehicle for our World Baseball Classic team."

The core of Baseball Canada's funding comes from Sport Canada, which awards points to various national teams based on international results and distributes funding accordingly.

That used to be topped up by $100,000-$150,000 annually in Canadian Olympic Committee funding, which is gone now, likely for good and is a significant hit.

The development of an endowment fund under Baseball Canada's alumni program helps, but the onus is now on the national teams to deliver whenever they play to help out the bottom line.

The first test comes at the Sept. 9-27 World Cup at various sites in Europe. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sask. provides funding for grad student internships
The Saskatchewan government announced that it will be providing $270,000 for 29 workplace internships for graduate students in the province. The internships will be jointly funded by the government and the employers. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

This means war!

Maclean's followed up interviews with the presidents of Canada's "Big 5" universities with reactions from the presidents of seven small and medium-sized institutions — uWaterloo, Lakehead, uLethbridge, UOIT, STU, SFU, and UoGuelph. Most say they don't believe the "Big 5" should become more research-intensive at the expense of other schools. The Big 5 already receive a disproportionate amount of research funding, the report says. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Panning the paper piles

Going electronic is possible and saves money

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

With predictions of the paperless office well into their fourth decade, it may seem a mirage of eco-friendliness that will forever stay on the horizon. But a Canadian university department that went paper-free last year is saving money, time and space, not to mention the environment.

Cyprien Lomas of the University of British Columbia's faculty of land and food systems says the small department in a big university is blazing a trail others should follow.

The IT expert says it worked because the ecologically aware faculty was "driven by values. Plus, it seemed like a good idea."

"Every time paper was used, they asked the tough question: Do we really need to use this piece of paper?" he says. The ethos of the office changed to the point where using paper was almost embarrassing.

Staff used to work on a computer screen and then print off a version of the record for students to see. Now, they have two screens — one facing the student — and work together in real time.

"Every time paper was used, they asked the tough question: Do we really need to use this piece of paper?"
Cyprien Lomas of UBC's faculty of land and food systems

Eco-friendly

Note-taking went paper-free, too. "Instead of writing on a piece of paper, (staff) use a screen technique and writing on a piece of transparency, which she can then wash afterwards and reuse," Lomas says.

The venture made the expected savings in paper, cutting the expense of running a printer and fax machine, but also had unexpected benefits.

"One (staff member) spent a lot of time filing paperwork. By getting away from that system, she was able to phase that out, free up a bunch of her time and work on higher-value things," he says.

It's created work, too: other parts of the university and wider community now regularly call up the faculty to see how they, too, can go paper-free.

Sarene Gilbertson at Organize-Life-Inside-Out.com says if paper-less seems impossible, try less paper. The keys to paper-free life are technology. She uses a scanner to import paper documents sent to her and then shreds the originals. Most of her billing is done electronically.

She also ditched her printer, using a print shop on the rare occasions she needs a hard copy, and tossed the fax machine. She uses digital faxing via MyFax.com, which allows her to send and receive faxes through her e-mail.

"I can function almost anywhere in the world with an 'almost' paperless office because I've simplified my files and how I use the internet," Gilbertson says.

Workology in **brief**

IT AVOIDED LIKE THE PLAGUE
According to a new study, students and graduates in North America are continuing to avoid both tech-sector programs and jobs due to a continuing belief that the IT sector is still in a slump. This has been a trend for the past four years. Yes, over the past 18 months, demand for IT workers in Canada has doubled. This has employers very concerned as more and more current IT employees are reaching retirement age. If Canadian talent isn't available, companies may need to offshore IT work.

OVERTIME COMPENSATION
A study released by the Conference Board of Canada shows that over the past year, both employees and management have become increasingly concerned about overtime compensation. The unease of the respondents at the 130 mid-to-large-size organizations who were surveyed involves employee eligibility for overtime pay, compliance with legislation, control of overtime costs, and potential legal liabilities associated with unpaid overtime. Those who reported having the best-managed overtime policies and practices were in the government, education, health and not-for-profit sectors.

WOMEN EDGE MEN IN BIZ According to a new book, women have innate attributes that give them an edge over men in business. Called The Female Brand: Using the Female Mindset to Succeed in Business, the book points to women's social-perception skills, empathy and intuition as skills that lead to success in the business world.
HEATHER BUCHAN/FOR METRO CANADA

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Heads butt at Laurentian
Laurentian University Staff Union president Tracy Oost claims that Laurentian University showed a "lack of respect" during the recent negotiations, and attempted to introduce unpaid days off for union workers in the event of financial exigency. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Opposites inspire for Horwath

Harris-era changes sparked MPP's long journey to the top of the NDP

CHRIS ATCHISON
for Metro Canada

Despite sitting on opposite sides of the political spectrum, Ontario New Democratic Party leader Andrea Horwath is the first to point out that her original decision to run for office was inspired by former premier Mike Harris.

It was in the mid-1990s, when Horwath was a community developer and activist in Welland, Ont., that changes to funding for social programs enacted by the Progressive Conservative government sparked her interest in political activism.

"When the Harris government came in they started downloading all sorts of things to municipalities, they started making cuts to social services and part of my work was mobilizing communities, analyzing these changes and coming up with responses," she recalls.

Horwath earned a reputation as a staunch defender of workers' rights, prompting her to challenge Liberal incumbent Stan Keyes for the riding of Hamilton West in the 1997 federal election. Although Horwath lost, she posted an impressive second-place finish and won a seat on Hamilton city council later that year.

With ever-crucial election and public service experience behind her, Horwath ran again — this time provincially — and won the riding of Hamilton East in a 2004 by-election. Following electoral changes, which eliminated her seat, Horwath then went on to take the new riding of Hamilton Centre in 2007. Although the NDP increased its seat count in the election, it failed to make necessary inroads with voters and party stalwarts began calling for a change in direction.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES
Hamilton Centre MPP Andrea Horwath is the current leader of the Ontario NDP.

Speculation that NDP leader Howard Hampton would soon step down was rampant and in mid-2008, Horwath began considering a leadership run. From the outset, she understood the daunting task that lay ahead for Hampton's successor.

"I decided that a lot of my own personal history and work history was about organizing and invigorating people and creating a sense of hope and potential accomplishment," she recalls, "so that's how I got my head into the space of thinking perhaps I should do this." Horwath spent time consulting with family members and party faithful before officially declaring herself a leadership candidate last November. The 46-year-old won the leadership race at a convention in her hometown of Hamilton in March, and has since been adjusting to an increasingly-hectic work schedule.

As she strives to redefine her party's platform and build confidence amongst voters, setting aside personal and family time is a constant challenge. Her solution thus far: Taking the odd Monday off when she can (weekends are far too busy) and being in the gym or pool every morning by 6 a.m.

"I find that exercise helps clear the head, manage stress and keeps me physically strong on days when the pace is pretty gruelling," Horwath explains. "Then I try to carve out small bits of time where I can connect with my family. They're my touchstones and they keep it real for me."

Check tomorrow's Workology section for a feature pieces on Ontario minister of health with the Liberal government, David Caplan, and check Metronews.ca for a feature PC MPP Frank Klees, which ran in yesterday's Metro.

Information night: Thursday, August 20, 2009, 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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MAT LECOMPTE
for Metro Canada

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In the world of television, viewers see the result of a lot of hard work. It's often forgotten — or perhaps even unknown — how much labour goes into creating the pictures that provide viewers with countless hours of entertainment week-in and week-out.

Alexandra Mastronardi, production co-ordinator for HGTV's Top 10, is responsible for making sure things run smoothly from before filming begins to the time the champagne is popped at the wrap party. Which, as it seems, is apparently impossible.

"No matter how organized you think you are, you're never organized enough!" she says, "Classic words from a co-ordinator."

Her job entails that everything is carefully planned and prepared by the time filming starts. That means creating call sheets so the cast knows where and when to be on location, booking the gear and flights, securing the required permits and making sure all the right crew members are set up and ready to go.

On top of all that, she's got to handle any problems or crises that arise, which, she assures us, are in no short supply.

Production coordinators require mass amounts of organization.

Mastronardi, who works from a downtown Toronto office, recounts the most recent example of a problem that needed some serious fixing.

"The show I'm working on right now has multiple cameramen shooting in multiple cities, so as you can imagine, it's a logistical nightmare!" she says. "Last weekend my cameraman calls me from B.C. saying they've just picked up their rental vehicle and the jib arm doesn't fit in the van, and there are no larger vans available in the area."

Living by the creed, "the show must go on" — which she calls one of the truest phrases in the business — Mastronardi hit the phones and called various rental companies to inquire about larger vans. Then, out of thin air, the original company was able to produce the van they wanted.

"There's always a fix," she says. "It's never easy, but where there's a will there's a way. I think that's an important attitude for a coordinator to have"

Like many jobs in entertainment, a production coordinator is usually employed strictly on a contract basis. Because of this, Mastronardi is constantly on the hunt for new contacts that can lead to jobs. She says her contracts are usually for three or four months, but has worked an eight month contract, as well as one that was for a single day. It's essential to take advantage of that time, she says, because the more people you meet, the more jobs you get.

"Never burn bridges and keep in mind the two degrees of TV land — everyone knows everyone through someone."

To witness the fruits of her labour, check out HGTV's Top 10 on Tuesday evenings.

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15% increase in enrolment for GPRC
Student enrolment rates are up 15 per cent over last year at Grande Prairie Regional College, in northwest Alberta. GRPC attributes this success to a new marketing campaign and additional programming. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Job seekers thinking small

As workers navigate through one of the toughest economies and job markets in the nation's history, they are turning to small businesses in greater numbers.

According to a new CareerBuilder survey, one-in-five workers (22 per cent) who were laid off from full-time jobs in the last 12 months and landed new positions found those opportunities with small businesses. Another 59 per cent said they are interested in working for a small business, while others are considering starting a small business of their own.

According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, small businesses employ half of all workers in the private sector and furnish half of the private gross domestic product. They also account for most of the nation's new job creation.

"Small businesses will play a critical role in the rebuilding of the job market," said Brent Rasmussen, President of CareerBuilder North America. "As drivers of innovation, small businesses will help to re-energize the economy and support recovery efforts. In turn, workers will find that working for a small business can provide a wealth of experience in a variety of roles, a competitive compensation structure, a flexible work environment and more."

Some people who have lost their jobs are finding new ones in places that always need some help, small businesses.

"Small businesses will play a critical role in the rebuilding of the job market."
Brent Rasmussen

In addition to job growth potential, when asked what most appealed to them about working for small companies, workers pointed to:

- A family-like work environment: 56 per cent;
- More employee recognition: 49 per cent;
- A sense that you can make a difference: 48 per cent;
- An absence of corporate red tape: 46 per cent;

This survey was conducted online by Harris Interactive on behalf of CareerBuilder. METRO NEWS SERVICES

More small businesses to come

- Of workers who were laid off in the last year and have not found jobs, 29 per cent are considering opening their own businesses.

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City approves Algonquin College waterfront project

Pembroke city council announced last Tuesday their approval of Algonquin College's $36 million waterfront campus project, permitting the construction of a more than 80,000 square foot facility. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology in **brief**

STUDENTS AND MONEY For some local area parents, the chaotic back to school season is a time when money seems to flow liberally from their wallets. And for parents with children returning to college or university this fall, the associated costs go far beyond protractors and erasers. With Statistics Canada estimating that the average university student paid $4,724 in tuition this past year, financial and insurance experts recommend some tips that families can take to decrease their expenditures.

• Students who are away at school, and are living outside the family home temporarily, are usually still covered for up to $10,000 in belongings by their parents' home insurance policy. In most cases this will negate the need for their own tenant policy. Students who sign a lease, however, should obtain their own tenants policy for insurance of belongings and personal liability on the rented premises.

• For students who need their own policy, tenant insurance can be had for as low as $100 for the year. And while many think they don't have much to protect — even the cost of replacing your complete wardrobe could amount to thousands of dollars.

NEWS CANADA

'Blended learning' builds tech skills

Gone are the days of correspondence courses and snail mail.

Today's distance education programs offer digital resources that are designed to support and enhance the learning experience and to help the student succeed. Online tutorials allow students to visualize problems and put solutions into practice while chat rooms can start a book discussion or give someone the opportunity to ask a teacher a question and get instant feedback. Courses that employ a variety of teaching resources, both in print and online, are referred to as blended learning.

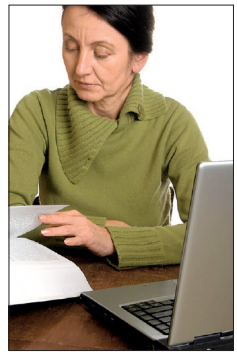
While the credits earned and diplomas awarded get all the glory, often times, the technical skills that have been developed by using digital resources and studying at a distance get overlooked.

"By the time a student has completed a blended learning course they will have acquired not only the knowledge associated with the course but also they will have enhanced their technical acumen and online research skills," says Sarah Irwin, managing director of the Independent Learning Centre (ILC.org), Ontario's designated provider of distance education.

"(After completing a) blended learning course (students) will have ... enhanced their technical acumen and online research skills."
Independent Learning Centre's Sarah Irwin

Whether applying for a better job, trying for a promotion or applying to a post-secondary institution, a job training or second-career program, being computer literate and familiar with the use of multi-media technology is an important skill. Adult learners should keep this in mind when they are considering returning to school, and evaluating the different distance education programs being offered.

NEWS CANADA



There are many unique opportunities to blended learning courses provided by Ontario's Independent Learning Centre.

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The gold standard

Elnett Hairspray (which debuted for a sneak peek at Toronto Fashion Week in March) is now available in drug stores for $6.99 (73ml) and $14.99 (365ml). This ultra-fine spray protects against humidity and disappears at the stroke of a brush. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Health & Beauty

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

I heart whole grains

Reduce blood pressure with a healthy diet, says study

CELIA MILNE
For Metro Canada

To keep your blood pressure down, eat whole grains.

The health power of whole grains was clearly shown in a Harvard study of 31,684 male health professionals. They were between the ages of 40 and 75 at the beginning of the study, and researchers followed them for 18 years. At first, none of them had hypertension (high blood pressure), cancer, stroke or heart disease.

Study organizers wanted to find out whether eating whole grains had an impact on who did and who didn't develop hypertension over the 18 years.

Hypertension is a big problem in our society — more than five million Canadians have hypertension, according to the Canadian Hypertension Society. It is the number one risk factor for stroke, and it is a major risk factor for heart disease. Hypertension is silent; 43 per cent of Canadians who have it don't even know that they are affected.

ISTOCK PHOTO

A recent Harvard study showed those who ate a diet rich in whole grain had a 19 per cent reduction in hypertension.

In the study, 9,227 cases of hypertension developed among the men. Researchers then split the population into five groups according to how much whole grain they had eaten over the course of the study. Being in the highest group for whole grain was associated with a 19 per cent reduction in hypertension, compared to the lowest whole-grain-consuming group. "Whole grains as a part of a prudent, balanced diet may help promote cardiovascular health," Dr. Alan Flint, a research scientist at Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, told Metro. He is project director of the Health Professionals Follow-up Study.

Foods high in whole grains include brown rice, oatmeal and popcorn

Flint and colleagues also looked at bran intake, and the effect it had on hypertension. Being in the highest total-bran-eating group was associated with a 15 per cent lower risk of developing high blood pressure over the years.

Foods that are quite high in whole grains include oats, oatmeal, barley, brown rice, popcorn, and whole wheat flour. A one-cup bowl of cooked oatmeal might typically contain about 30 to 35 grams of whole grain. A cup of popcorn contains about 10 to 12 grams, and a slice of whole-wheat bread contains about 15 grams, so it is easy to add a healthy amount of whole grains to your diet. Eating 55 grams of whole grains a day would put you firmly in the highest group and reduce your risk of developing hypertension.

Other lifestyle factors that reduce your risk of high blood pressure include being physically active, not smoking, relaxing every day, limiting alcohol, and eating a balanced diet low in sodium.

Clean up your makeup

BEAUTY Ever thought about the bacteria that lives on your makeup?

Sure, you've shuddered at what camps out on beauty-counter samples, but your personal cosmetics hosts colonies of ickies too — they commute regularly between skin and makeup via applicators and fingers.

"Good cosmetics hygiene can help prevent build-up of common bacteria that can lead to skin irritation, pink eye and even acne," says pro artist Nancy Crossley. Crossley is the woman behind BeautySoClean, a collection of makeup sanitizers clinically proven to kill germs 100 per cent dead in as little as 10 seconds.

The star of the group is a Cosmetic Sanitizer Mist ($12) to spritz directly onto the surface of makeup, whether powder or cream. It disinfects as it dries, but doesn't affect the product's texture.

Individually packaged, pre-moistened Sanitizer Wipes ($12.50 per box of 48) are ideal for cleaning lipsticks, liners, lip-gloss wands and mascara brushes. A Conditioning Brush Cleanser ($20) refreshes natural and synthetic bristles for more hygenic makeup application.

"The magic is in the emollients," says Crossley. "Alcohol works in perfect harmony with conditioning ingredients to eliminate bacteria without altering the formula of the cosmetic."

A hit with a number of influential Hollywood makeup artists, BeautySoClean is also the sanitizer of choice at cosmetics counters in The Bay stores across Canada. The Canadian line is available for purchase at The Bay, Murale and at BeautySoClean.com.

JANINE FALCON/
FOR METRO CANADA

Keep cosmetics bacteria-free with the BeautySoClean line of santizers. Pictured: (Left to right) Cosmetic Sanitizer Wipes (also seen outside of package) ($12.50); Conditioning Brush Cleanser ($20) and Cosmetic Sanizer Mist ($12.50).

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Pro hair-styling tips for everyday men

Expert Mitch Stone weighs in on products and how they work

JANINE FALCON
For Metro Canada

James Arsenault considers himself more-or-less an average guy. At 22, the University of Western business-school grad is part of a generation for whom an extensive array of men's hair styling product on drugstore shelves is normal, yet still something of a mystery.

Arsenault uses a Garnier Fructis wax on his short hair. "One of my roommates had some. I tried it, it did what I wanted, I don't need to try anything else," he says. "I throw it in my hair to give it some shape and look like I put some effort into looking groomed, not messy."

While he shrugs on the subject of the differences between putty and paste, Arsenault admits that rather than gel he prefers wax because it doesn't result in that over-slicked Ross Gellar 'do. "I don't like to look like I have stuff in my hair," he says. He also appreciates that wax allows him to reshape his hair as needed throughout the day.

Los Angeles-based stylist Mitch Stone is an expert on men's hair products. Recently in Toronto to work with the finalists for The Score's Drafted, the search for the next great sportscaster (drafted.ca), he knows from the properties of gel versus putty versus paste versus wax, and about not looking like you have stuff in your hair. "It's matte textures now, especially with high-def," he said when he sat down to share his pro tips with Metro.

SUPPLIED PHOTO
Los Angeles-based stylist Mitch Stone (pictured right) works with clients like actors Ewan McGregor and Ben Stiller.

"Matte textures (are in) now, especially with high-def."
Stylist Mitch Stone

Stone, whose clients include Ewan McGregor in Angels & Demons and Ben Stiller in Tropic Thunder, says not to be afraid of gel, at least not Gillette Flex Gel, which delivers a softer, matte look that is "less Alec Baldwin, more Roger Federer."

Gillette Power Gel is a stronger version: "I used it on Ewan in Angels & Demons; without it, his stick-straight hair would spring straight up." (McGregor, it turns out, is a gracious client; he sent Stone a "Great hair! Just saw the premiere!" text when the film opened.)

To take a style from business to cocktail, try a paste, such as Joico Design Collection Pliable Paste or Gillette Sculpting Paste. The key is the paste's re-workability, says Stone. You can look conservative for day, then post 5 p.m. easily re-shape hair for a casually dishevelled look like Brad Pitt or Robert Downey Jr.

If you want to make girls swoon with a 'do like Robert Pattinson's, putty offers lots of hold for edgier, more haphazard styles. And for a short cut like Daniel Craig's, which Stone says "can look like a tennis ball without any product," he recommends Mess Constructor, which has a consistency between a paste and a gel, and leaves a matte finish like the rest of the Gillette line. "It will give the hair texture and dimension."

For frizzy, curly hair, Stone suggests using a hydrating conditioner after shampooing, and dabbing some in like a leave-in conditioner before styling.

More tips from Mitch Stone

"How much product a guy should use depends on the hair length, hair style and coarseness," says stylist Mitch Stone. "For most guys, using about a penny to quarter size dollop should do the trick. Before applying it to hair guys must remember to emulsify the product by rubbing it between their hands vigorously. Then, to polish the style after hair dries all the way, use dime size to accentuate texture." **JANINE FALCON**

Hair stylers to try

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Health in brief

STUDY According to a new study, the key ingredients to great sex are all in your mind. Recently released in The Canadian Journal of Human Sexuality, the study found the real essentials are emotional connection between partners, communication and focus. The study is titled The Components Of Optimal Sexuality: A Portrait Of Great Sex. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES**

iPhone dating apps next?

Forget iFart, give us some mobile advice we could really use

The J Spot
Josey Vogels
metronews.ca/thejspot

ISTOCK PHOTO

Wouldn't it be great if there were an iPhone app that allowed you to punch in the pros and cons for why you should or shouldn't sleep with someone, referencing your past as well as "what if" scenarios?

In a stellar example of how technology is furthering civilization as we know it, iFart — an application that allows you to play a variety of realistic sounding "farts" on your iPhone or iPod has become one of Apple's top 20 selling mobile applications. iBeer, an application that makes it look like you're drinking a beer out of your phone is also in the top 20.

Now, in another civilization-advancing moment, Apple has released Passion, an iPhone application that allows you to measure how good you are in bed. The software gives ratings from "bad" to "perfect" based on three criteria — duration, measured by the phone's timer; orgasm, measured via microphone; and activity, measured via motion sensor. Afterwards, you can upload your score from one to 10 and see how you measure up.

I realize Passion is meant as a novelty (at $5 a pop, I'm sure its creator Chris Alvares is laughing all the way to the bank) that will undoubtedly spawn lots of fake-orgasm contests, possibly over too many rounds of iBeer, so I won't get all serious about how this app perpetuates ideas about what good sex is — louder, longer, more acrobatic … really? — or that good sex is all about "scoring" but surely Apple could come up with something more useful. Here are some iPhone apps I'd like to see:

AMiREADY? Allows you to punch in pros and cons for why you should or should not sleep with someone and cross references this with reasons you've regretted sleeping with someone in the past as well as "what if" scenarios if you do sleep with the person to come up with a "yes" or "no" answer.

iNTHEMOOD Several apps let you customize your music but this one allows you to plug in the circumstances of your sexual encounter — first time, quickie, longie, etc. — and programs music accordingly, based on your taste.

iSEXTIPS Rather than monitor how long or loud you are, this app gauges the authenticity of your partner's moans and, if it detects fake arousal, feed tips into an earpiece to help you figure out how to really turn him or her on.

iDATEESCAPE A preprogrammed phone call or text comes in when a certain pre-determined phrase is uttered during a date that isn't going well.

iDATECORRECT Based on professional dating advice and your own dating history, this app causes your phone to vibrate (you'll want to keep it in a pocket so your date isn't suspect) any time you screw up. Pre-rehearsed recoveries can then be employed in an attempt to salvage the date.

iLOCATEADATE Much like some programs that allow you to locate listings for restaurants and bars based on your current location, this app will locate good local places to meet people, based on ambience, demographics and your dating preferences.

• Saudi TV says no to sex. Read more at Josey Sexcetera blog at metronews.ca/blog

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

Garlic is good for your heart: Study

ISTOCK PHOTO

A new study looks at the many beneficial health effects of fresh garlic.

NUTRITION Stinky garlic might not be good for your love life but it's great for your heart.

"When it starts to smell, it's working," says cardiologist Dipak Das of the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

He headed a research team that investigated the beneficial health effects of crushed or chopped fresh garlic and says science is now proving what people have long believed about the herb.

"Our grandmothers knew about garlic. There are lots of old ideas," says Das, adding that many believed it to have antibodies against illness. Recent studies have shown garlic to be a cancer-fighting antioxidant.

But its benefits to heart health are also great.

In an article in the Aug. 12 issue of the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, Das reported that feeding chopped fresh garlic to rats improved their recovery from simulated heart attacks over a group that received processed garlic.

While both types of garlic helped the rats' hearts, the fresh garlic had a greater effect on restoring blood flow, the study found.

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Beware of raccoon feces

Remove latrines, warn experts

CELIA MILNE
For Metro Canada

Don't let raccoons turn your sandbox into a toilet. This could pose a serious risk to young children.

Raccoons are sometimes infected with a parasite called Baylisascaris procyonis. If so, the eggs of the parasite exist in their feces. If children put something in their mouth that has been in contact with raccoon feces, they can ingest the eggs, which can lead to serious and sometimes fatal neurological illness.

Although this disease (known as raccoon roundworm encephalitis) is rare, it is important enough to warrant a public health warning, writes Dr. Kirsten Page (PhD), a scientist at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois in a recent issue of Emerging Infectious Diseases.

Raccoons tend to create latrines that many animals use regularly.

Page and colleagues studied 119 backyards in the suburbs of Chicago. They found that 51 per cent of them had raccoon latrines. The parasite was found in 24 per cent of latrines sampled.

"Homeowners with small children should remove (raccoon) latrines as quickly as they are discovered."
Dr. Kirsten Page, scientist

"Homeowners with small children should remove latrines as quickly as they are discovered," they warned. Cover sandboxes and similar spots so that raccoons aren't tempted to use them as outhouses.

Revlon's new Pink Pursuit collection hits store this October.

Be pretty, support pink initiative

BEAUTY Pink is the hot colour in Revlon Canada's latest breast cancer support campaign — the Pink Pursuit collection.

The company is contributing proceeds from this in-store promotion to the 2009 Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure.

The collection features Revlon's Multi Care Top and Base Coat, Ceramic Stone File, Easy Squeeze Nail Clip and Revlon nail enamel in Posh Pink, Plum Seduction, Steel-Her-Heart, as well as three limited edition shades: Power Walk Pink, Pink Pursuit and Racy Raspberry.

This year's run takes place on Oct. 4 in more than 50 communities across Canada.

For more information visit cbcf.org.

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METRO NEWS SERVICES

The Source Purifying Mud Mask ($30)
This gentle mask for dry, sensitive or normal skin uses natural mud and minerals from the Dead Sea to remove impurities and clarify skin. Available at Sears and select Rexall and Bay stores. ahava.com.

Tea Tree Face Mask ($15)
Soothe blemish-prone skin and absorb excess oil with The Body Shop's new tea tree-based mask. It's designed to leave skin feeling deeply cleansed, calm and refreshed. thebodyshop.ca.

Sampar Essentials - Nocturnal Lifting Mask ($89)
Hydrate, fortify and tone skin with this nighttime mask that is designed to stimulate the production of collagen and cell regeneration while you sleep. Available at Sears and Bay stores.

Power Mask- Hydrogel Eye Mask ($13)
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Kruger sporting bling ring

Diane Kruger has sparked rumours she's set to walk down the aisle with boyfriend Joshua Jackson after she was spotted with a diamond band on her ring finger. The German beauty has been dating Jackson since 2006. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Birthday bash

Rumer Willis celebrated her 21st birthday over the weekend in high style in Las Vegas with mom Demi Moore, dad Bruce Willis and stepfather Ashton Kutcher along for the ride. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Project Runway returns

Fashion changes with the seasons, and so does Project Runway.

The hit reality show that pits would-be designers against one another will have a new setting (Los Angeles), a new network (Lifetime), and a special guest judge (Lindsay Lohan), when it debuts its sixth season on Thursday at 10 p.m. EDT.

Fans with a taste for drama and design are no doubt eager for the return of their weekly fashion fix. Mired for months in a behind-the-scenes legal battle between two networks and producers of the program, new episodes of Project Runway have been off TV for nearly a year; reruns have played on Bravo.

"We did shoot the show almost a year ago, and it was in limbo for the longest time," said host Heidi Klum, fashion-forward in skinny jeans and towering stilettos despite being some seven months pregnant with her fourth child, the third with husband Seal. "We just filmed season seven in New York which comes out in the beginning of next year — which will be funny because I will have had our baby already by then but then I'm pregnant again, so people will be all confused."

MATT SAYLES/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heidi Klum poses for a portrait while promoting the new season of Project Runway in New York.

The trouble with Runway began in April 2008. The series, which aired for five seasons on Bravo, was caught up in a legal dispute involving NBC Universal, which owns Bravo, the Weinstein Co. and Lifetime. NBC Universal sued Weinstein after the production company made a reported $150 million deal with Lifetime for the reality series.

Meanwhile, Klum, mentor Tim Gunn, judges Michael Kors and Nina Garcia, and a cast of 16 aspiring designers taped the show's sixth season. It was meant to begin airing in January and production wrapped in February. But the legal dealings weren't resolved until a settlement was announced in April, when NBC Universal said it would be paid by Weinstein for the right to move the show to Lifetime.

Klum remained optimistic throughout and is happy that no one revealed the winner during the show's unexpected hiatus.

Longtime Runway producer Barbara Schneeweiss was relieved, too.

"It was a bummer because we had shot season six and we all knew who the winner was and this poor person had to wait, wait, wait," she said.

The sixth season brings the show from New York to Los Angeles, where contestants spend time at the city's Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising. The move was meant to inject "a little fresh air to the show," Klum said, as well as pay homage to Hollywood's influence on modern fashion.

> **"We did shoot the show almost a year ago, and it was in limbo for the longest time."**
> Heidi Klum

Still, fans can expect the show's usual dose of drama and designs gone wrong.

"We film the show in a matter of six weeks. It's really a major pressure cooker," Klum said. "What other big designers do in 10 days or two weeks, like make a haute couture gown, they have to do it in one or two days."

Plus, there's no respite for the contestants, who live and work together throughout production.

This season's crop of competitors includes aspiring designers from Moscow, the Republic of Georgia and all over the United States. Some are straight out of art school, others are experienced designers. All are vying for the show's big prize: an editorial feature in Marie Claire magazine, a trip to Paris and a cash prize of $100,000 to start a fashion line. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Dancing cast includes DeLay, Liddell

DeLay

TV Former Republican majority leader Tom DeLay will join 15 celebrities from the worlds of entertainment and sports in kicking up their heels on the new season of Dancing With the Stars.

Other hopefuls include entertainer Donny Osmond; singers Mya, Macy Gray and Aaron Carter; actors Melissa Joan Hart, Debi Mazar and Ashley Hamilton (son of George); models Joanna Krupa and Kathy Ireland; reality stars Kelly Osbourne and Mark Dacascos (the Chairman on Food Network's Iron Chef America); mixed martial artist Chuck Liddell; professional snowboarder Louie Vito; Olympic swimmer Natalie Coughlin; former Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Michael Irvin and the 62-year-old former congressman from Texas.

The contestants were announced on Monday's Good Morning America by Dancing host Tom Bergeron. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Barney's Version filming underway
Shooting was set to begin yesterday for the big-screen version of Mordecai Richler's acclaimed novel Barney's Version. The film stars Dustin Hoffman, Paul Giamatti, Minnie Driver and Rachelle Lefevre. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brother vs. brother

Doc explores songwriters' troubled relationship

KEVIN COURRIER
for Metro Canada

Throughout the long history of music, great songwriting partnerships, from Gilbert and Sullivan to Lennon and McCartney, have been fraught with tension and discord.

But who would have believed that Robert and Richard Sherman, the composers for a number of Walt Disney family musicals like Mary Poppins and The Jungle Book, and wrote hit romantic pop songs like She's Sixteen and unforgettable tunes like Chim Chim Cher-ee, could have a relationship as turbulent as a summer storm?

The Boys: The Sherman Brothers' Story opens Friday

Their fractious relationship, a sibling partnership, which was encouraged by their songwriting father Al Sherman, is the subject of a fascinating documentary called The Boys: The Sherman Brothers' Story.

In telling this compelling saga, the task wasn't left to just any filmmaker. With the musical brothers barely speaking to each other, it was up to their boys, Greg (Richard's only son) and Jeff (Robert's oldest boy) Sherman, to examine the artistic and personal legacy of both fathers. And, as it turned out, the cousins hadn't spoken to each other either for years — although it wasn't by choice.

"We had attended the London stage premiere of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang in 2002, and, as usual, we went with our immediate families to separate sides of the theatre," recalls Jeff Sherman. "Afterwards, we met up at a party and tried to figure out why we had been living out our lives with no contact."

The decision to make the movie was, in part, to answer that question. "That's true," Greg Sherman explains. "It was a minefield that we were walking into and we had inherited a lot of our dad's issues."

What exactly happened isn't made clear in the movie, but The Boys: The Sherman Brothers' Story does take us deep into the dynamic of their troubled partnership so that we understand how they did work together.

Legendary songwriters Robert, left, and Richard Sherman are the subject of a new documentary called The Boys: The Sherman Brothers' Story.

"It was a minefield that we were walking into."
Richard Sherman's son Greg on making the film

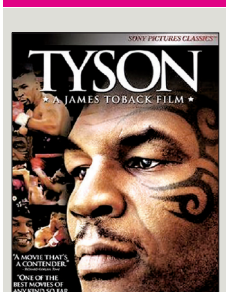
"It's like adjusting your separate hot and cold water so that it comes out of one faucet just the way you want it," Richard Sherman asserts. "Bob and I looked at things coming from different directions, so the songs never got too sugary, or too caustic."

There was no better example of that than A Spoonful of Sugar Helps the Medicine Go Down from Mary Poppins, where the original title had included the word "makes" rather than "helps."

"As we were perfecting the song, I said to Bob that the word 'makes' is like forcing something," Richard Sherman explains. "I thought it should be 'helps' because it's softer and easier. Then we added, 'in the most delightful way' because that's how Mary Poppins would say it."

Although The Boys doesn't bring any final resolution to the conflicts between the Sherman Brothers, the picture did plenty to bring their sons together. "Having done this film, we now have a tremendous appreciation for each other," explains Greg.

DVD picks



Tyson
Director: James Toback

WITH TYSON, James Toback fashions a sharp documentary out of a blunt object. Mike Tyson was the self-styled "Baddest Man on the Planet" during his heyday of the late 1980s through the1990s, holding or contesting the heavyweight boxing crown through physical prowess and intimidation. During a grudge match in 1997, he chewed off part of the ear of rival Evander Holyfield.

The law caught up with him: Tyson spent three years in jail in the early 1990s on a rape conviction. But there are always tales and tears behind the headlines, and Toback's doc spins them like a carny huckster. Big, bad Mike, the man with fists of iron and a giant flame tattoo on his face, is deep down a misunderstood softie.

He was bullied at school, taunted for keeping pet pigeons and generally treated like a dumb lisping lug from Brooklyn. He says he learned to fight because, "I'm just afraid of being treated that way again."

Like a man in a 12-step program — he also spent time in rehab — the ex-champ confesses his sins in straight-to-camera testimonials. Toback, who normally deals in dramatic narratives of jocks, playboys and thugs, lets his subject speak at length, interspersed with archival and split-screen boxing footage.

It's fascinating to hear Tyson speak. No one pretends that the documentary is objective appraisal — there are almost no commentators besides Tyson himself.

Extras include a Toback commentary and several featurettes.

The Last House on the Left
Director: Dennis Iliadis

WES CRAVEN'S original 1972 rural home invasion shocker was filmed on the cheap for drive-ins.

This one's a remake, and a lot of things have changed in the intervening 37 years, most not for the better. Craven and Cunningham produce, leaving hired gun Dennis Iliadis to direct the film largely from their original bloodstained blueprint. This time, Craven can't profess innocence or youthful folly: he's cashing in on the torture-porn fad (the Saw and Hostel franchises) that delights in human degradation.

Extras include deleted scenes and a featurette.

PETER HOWELL/FOR METRO CANADA

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Exit Grant?
Blaming recurring bouts of stage fright, Hugh Grant is threatening to retire from acting, a claim he's made in the past. "'I like everything about filming except the acting," Grant tells Entertainment Weekly. METRO WORLD NEWS

Back to Indiana

Tour relives MJ's childhood in Gary

Before there was the sprawling Neverland ranch in California, before he became a superstar with the best-selling album of all time, Thriller, a tiny house in the industrial city of Gary was home for Michael Jackson.

Since Jackson's death, two women from the Chicago area, about 50 kilometres from Gary, have started The King of Pop Hometown Tour, taking busloads of tourists on a four-hour trek through Jackson family landmarks in northwest Indiana. The highlight is 2300 Jackson St., a small white-sided house as big as a two-and-a-half car garage where the Jackson family lived — with nine children — nearly four decades ago.

"This is a tour of motivation and inspiration," guide Denise Jordan Walker tells riders, as her partner Tecora Rogers readies the bus to leave. "We are not taking you to a gated community. We are not taking you to Neverland. We are taking you to Gary, Indiana."

CARYN ROUSSEAU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
A street sign is covered with notes from fans near the childhood home of Michael Jackson in Gary, Ind.

On cue, a music video of the Jackson 5 plays on overhead screens as the bus pulls off from Chicago and travels south down the highway. A young Michael Jackson sings, "I'm going back to Indiana. Indiana here I come. I'm going back to Indiana. That is where my baby's from."

The women said they always wanted to host a Jackson-themed tour of Gary, but had put the idea aside to focus on a Chicago jazz music tour instead. After Michael Jackson's death in June, requests started pouring in, Walker said.

"It hasn't changed that much since the Jacksons lived here," Walker said. "It's pretty much like time stood still. We want to paint a picture and let people really feel what the Jacksons went through on a day-to-day basis."

Off the highway in Indiana, the bus drives through a heavily industrial area along Lake Michigan before stopping in front of the steel mill where father Joe Jackson worked. The tour goes on to the hospital where the Jackson children were born and the elementary school they attended. It also highlights the beginnings of the Jackson 5, with stops at Mr. Lucky's Lounge, where the group first performed, and the house where the Jacksons recorded for Steeltown Records in 1967.

JOHN SMIERCIAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Fans and visitors stand in front of the childhood home of Michael Jackson in Gary, Ind.

While stuffed animals, cards and signs still decorate the outside of the Jackson home, the inside remains closed. The tour, however, has partnered with the owners of a mirror-image house across the street, allowing for a walk-through to get a feel for the Jackson home.

One rider, Mallorie Garner, 58, of Olympia Fields, Ill., said the tour offered her perspective on the beginnings of such a famous family.

"It helps you appreciate where they started and how far they came," Garner said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS
Ian Halperin, author of Unmasked, The Final Years of Michael Jackson, speaks at a press conference in Montreal yesterday.

Jackson's mom taking on trustees: Author

Michael Jackson's mother will challenge the trusteeship of his estate in court because she believes financial handlers have been fleecing the pop icon for the last 20 years, says the author of a book on the singer's final days.

Biographer Ian Halperin cited unidentified sources in Jackson's family and the Los Angeles Police Department as he described that development at a news conference yesterday.

Katherine Jackson's lawyer, L. Londell McMillan, has asserted that she should given "a seat at the table" in executing deals for the estate, powers that are now exclusive to the special administrators.

He has also said there could be a conflict of interest that could compromise co-executors John Branca and John McClain.

"Katherine Jackson is contesting officially Branca and McClain as being executors of Michael Jackson's will," Halperin said, adding that he had confirmation that at the time of Michael Jackson's death Branca and McClain "were not his choice to run his estate."

"Katherine Jackson is contesting officially (John) Branca and (John) McClain as being executors of Michael Jackson's will."
Ian Halperin

The author said he has learned that Katherine Jackson accused some of her son's handlers of fraudulent practices over a 20-year-plus period.

Halperin also announced that a celebrity judge is offering to mediate the custody battle over Jackson's children.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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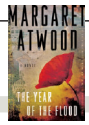

Theatrical book tour

To promote her upcoming novel, The Year of the Flood, Margaret Atwood has written a one-hour theatrical performance based on the book. The piece will include three actors and a choir, with Atwood serving as narrator. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sean Cullen set to take on Stratford role

THEATRE In early September, comedian Sean Cullen will step in to assume the role of Pseudolus in the current production of A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Poking fun at political types

In the Loop casts a scathing eye at governments' inner workings

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

In this volatile, confused time, what the world really needs is another scathing, bitter, hilarious political satire to take the juice out of it all.

So thank heavens for In The Loop — a feature length theatrical spinoff of the popular BBC TV show The Thick of It — which more than fits the bill.

Like the series that spawned it, the film is an ensemble piece about wacky goings on of the governmental powers that be, specifically charting the media-fuelled battles between the office of a klutzy British MP (Tom Hollander) and various high rankers in Washington, each with their own vested interest in either starting or stopping a war in the Middle East.

Reprising his small screen role as the foul tempered, foul mouthed communications director Malcom Tucker is Scottish actor/director Peter Capaldi, who serves as the picture's rotten core, spitting out a jaw dropping torrent of artfully articulated expletives and abusing all around him while frantically trying to gain control of the situation.

In the Loop will be in theatres on Friday

"The show was on late at night in England so we got away with a lot of profanity," says the actor of his alter ego's small screen origins.

"We had a team of writers coming up with all this stuff, so I can't take all the credit for what comes out of Malcom's mouth, but (director) Armando (Iannucci) let me and the rest of the cast improvise and add material.

The lean, wiry Capaldi is perhaps best known to western audiences for his roles in such eccentric fare as 1983's Local Hero and Ken Russell's Lair of the White Worm, where his turns as an awkward, sweet geek cutie set the tone for an endless spate of similar roles.

But Tucker is the opposite of the typical Capaldi character. He's a ferocious, virtual monster of vulgarity and one with few socially redeeming qualities.

"If there's any good in Malcom it's in that he gets the job done," says Capaldi. "He may be a bastard to everyone around him, but really, he's not the guy who gives the orders. He's ultimately just a cog in this big, lunatic machine."

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South Park, Quebecois-style

Quebec is getting a French-language version of South Park, swearing and all, to be aired starting next month on the TQS network. Karine Vanasse, seen recently in Polytechnique, and Xavier Dolan, whose J'ai tue ma mere was a Cannes Film Fest hit, will supply voices. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jackson wannabes back in high demand

RESURGENCE Michael Jackson impersonator Frederick Henry had to go overseas to find steady work in recent years as the pop star's behaviour got weirder and weirder. Many of his colleagues quit the business altogether.

But in the past few weeks, Henry's act at the Stratosphere in Las Vegas has become so hot that the hotel-casino had to beef up security to keep fans from swarming him after the show.

"It's been crazy," Henry said. "But it's all in fun — they're showing love."

The King of Pop's death has had an electrifying effect on business for those who make their living imitating Jackson's moonwalking and tee-hee-ing.

One club proprietor hopes to launch a permanent Jackson show by the star's birthday in late August, and booking agents have seen surges in applications from would-be impersonators and calls for their services.

Royal Talent, a booking agency for impersonators, said its Michael Jackson act is now the most requested.

Henry became a full-time Jackson impersonator in 1995 and took the act overseas during Jackson's later years. Things were tough in the United States then, Henry said, as the celebrity battled allegations of child molestation.

Everything changed when Jackson died June 25.

"Now is the time to shine again," Henry told fellow Jackson impersonators through a blog on MySpace.

Fourteen years after getting his start as a "Mike," Henry said he never gets tired of performing as "the greatest entertainer that ever lived." He also has a "big, fat contract" at the Stratosphere.

"I love it. I love it!" he said. "Plus, the cheque's nice." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jackson burial

- Michael Jackson's father Joe Jackson confirms the singer will finally be buried on Aug. 29, on what would have been his 51st birthday. The burial will take place at Los Angeles' Forest Lawn Cemetery at 10 a.m., some two months after the singer died June 25. PEOPLE.COM

Mad about Mad Men style

Is it any surprise AMC's Mad Men has sparked a hunger for 1960s sheaths and suits?

From runways to mass retail and the virtual world, the show set in early '60s New York, which premiered its third season Sunday, has put pencil skirts and skinny ties back in full rotation.

"I always describe Mad Men as the American, iconic style, because I think those silhouettes are still viable today," said the show's costume designer, Janie Bryant, at the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising's exhibit, The Outstanding Art of Television Costume Design.

The exhibit includes costumes from several shows and TV movies nominated for the 61st Primetime Emmy Awards, which air Sept. 20.

Mad Men, HBO's The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency and Grey Gardens are among the nominees considered to have an impact on broader fashion trends.

"People still have those silhouettes they did in the early 1960s, with the sheath, the shift, pencil skirts. It's a timeless period," Bryant said.

Bryant, who has been designing professionally for 18 years and with Mad Men since its second episode, said she's seen the show's influence everywhere, from Old Navy and Liz Claiborne to Christian Dior, Oscar de la Renta and Valentino — and a Mad Men collection from Banana Republic that includes a grey pencil skirt and printed tie blouse modelled after the curvy, head-turning Joan Holloway, and a slim, belted sheath, modelled after secretary-turned-copywriter Peggy Olson.

"The fit is the thing that tells the story of every character."
Mad Men costume designer Janie Bryant

A plaid fedora, striped tie and dark suit is based on the show's main character Don Draper.

Inspiration for the show's costumes, Bryant said, comes from research, old photographs and memories of her mother and grandmother. She also borrows a few tricks from the classic Valentino clothes that she so admires.

"He's such a beautiful designer. It's all about the fit," said Bryant. "The fit is the thing that tells the story of every character, whether it is slouchy, big, voluminous, to completely tailored." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

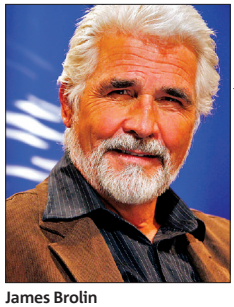
No more Mr. Streisand: James Brolin shows some raunch

PROFILE Combine one part silver fox, one part distinguished actor and one part devoted husband of Barbra Streisand. What do you get?

James Brolin, all 6 feet 4 inches of him.

Considering his classy image, Brolin's fans — many of them women — might be in for a bit of a shock after catching his latest comedy, The Goods.

The 69-year-old actor portrays the owner of a used-car dealership that has fallen on hard times. His character, Ben Selleck, recruits a team of rogue car salesmen led by Jeremy Piven to save his lot.



JEFF CHRISTENSEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

James Brolin

Like Brolin, Ben has a calm facade. But unexpected laughs arise when he develops an affinity with one of Piven's colleagues. One scene is so raunchy, it can't be repeated.

"I'm always stuck in the more straight roles, you know," Brolin said in an interview. "What about doing some bizarre, offbeat stuff?"

The Goods, produced by Will Ferrell and Adam McKay, lowers the bar on political correctness and aims squarely at a young male audience.

Brolin was the filmmakers' first choice for the part of Ben; the actor wanted a comedic role.

"It was constant comedy in my family, and yet in my work following that, there was no comedy at all," he said. "(It) was really great in opening me up in public ... and starting to be a little off the wall. I want to do more."

He said Streisand didn't know much about his role but when he brought her to a screening, she "was laughing the loudest of anybody in the room."

Do they share the same sense of humour?

"Not at all," he said. "I find her laughing overtly much more than I do. I have a lot of giggles going on inside and people don't know about it." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fox feeding off health care backlash

TELEVISION In the Age of Obama, conservative TV network Fox is a haven for people who are not buying into U.S. President Barack Obama. It was already on pace for its best ratings year even before the health care debate sent viewership jumping.

Fox's viewership is up 11 per cent over last year, according to Nielsen Media Research. Ratings for CNN and MSNBC, which rose in the campaign last year, are down.

Roughly three times as many Republicans said in a June survey that they regularly get news from Fox, as opposed to CNN or MSNBC, reported the Pew Research Center. The three networks had about the same number of Independent followers, and Fox had more Democratic followers than CNN and MSNBC had GOP fans.

Tim Phillips, president of Americans for Prosperity, says Fox doesn't ignore health care protesters' concerns: "Is Fox more critical of Obama than MSNBC? Of course ... But when you look at what is happening, Fox is actually covering it."

Fox's critics question its balance. Fox aired comments from 63 opponents of health care reform on Monday and Tuesday, and only 10 supporters, the liberal media watchdog Media Matters for America said. Fox also cut away from Obama's New Hampshire town hall after only two questions, saying it would return if it got contentious. It didn't.

"Some liberals say we intentionally glorify the protesters," host Bill O'Reilly said on his show last week. "That doesn't happen here. We've said there's no doubt that some of the dissent is organized by people who don't like President Obama. That's a fact — and we've reported it." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

NEW JUDGE Shania Twain once sang the lyrics "That don't impress me much." Now, she may get to utter those words to hopefuls on American Idol. People.com is reporting the pop star from Timmins, Ont., is rumoured to be a possible candidate for a guest-judging position during the show's upcoming auditions, alongside Randy Jackson, Simon Cowell and Kara DioGuardi in Chicago on Aug. 30 to 31. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Kids in the Hall film murder-mystery

The Kids in the Hall are venturing to North Bay, Ont., for a goofy murder-mystery miniseries that's set to air in January on CBC.

Toronto-based comdey troupe The Kids in the Hall are in North Bay to film Death Comes to Town, a a goofy murder-mystery miniseries.

Producers say cameras started rolling yesterday for Death Comes to Town, a suspenseful, eight-part comedy starring members of the comical Toronto-based troupe.

Dave Foley, Bruce McCulloch, Kevin McDonald, Mark McKinney and Scott Thomson also co-wrote the program, about the murder of a high-profile citizen in Shuckton, Ont.

McCulloch is an executive producer for the project and also conceived the idea for the program, the troupe's first together in 15 years.

The actors will each play multiple roles, and producers say that may include some characters from the original Kids in the Hall series.

Characters created for the miniseries include Shuckton's mayor and his alcoholic wife, a "germ-gel" sniffing town criminal, a pizza delivery woman with Alzheimer's, and a 600-pound ex-hockey star.

The central character is named Death.

Principal photography is scheduled to continue in North Bay until early October.

The miniseries is set for broadcast on CBC in January 2010.

The Kids in the Hall sketch comedy series went off the air on CBC in 1994.

Since then, each member has pursued independent projects in Canada and the U.S.

The comedy troupe reunited last year for a cross-Canada comedy tour that had them revive their beloved sketch characters.

In December, Foley also said the Kids are thinking about hitting the big screen with a feature film.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Waltz with words

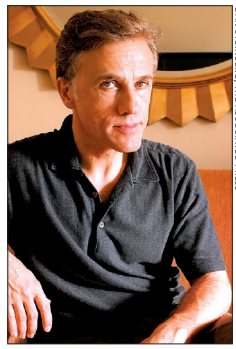
German actor gets Tarantino's multilingual 'poetry'

Christoph Waltz has mastered Quentin Tarantino's linguistic legerdemain in four languages.

Waltz won the best-actor prize at the Cannes Film Festival and is an early prospect for a supporting-actor nomination at the Academy Awards for the Second World War saga Inglourious Basterds, in which the Austrian-born performer hurtles through Tarantino's rapid-fire dialogue in German, French, English and Italian.

The film takes some jabs at Americans' relative lack of language skills, but Waltz said his own multilingual talents are simply part of life in Europe.

"I've been in places in Europe where you need a different language if you go out for dinner. I worked in southern Germany, and we went into France for dinner. You just go across the river, different language, different culture, different food, different everything. So it's nothing extraordinary," Waltz said, adding that Americans would possess similar language skills if necessity demanded. "If you needed Cherokee to order dinner, you'd speak Cherokee."


DAN STEINBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Christoph Waltz

Waltz, 52, is a respected TV and stage actor in Germany but a virtual unknown to overseas audiences, with a small role in the James Bond flick GoldenEye, his only previous credit in a big international production.

Tarantino auditioned top German movie stars for Col. Hans Landa, a brilliant, gleefully cunning Nazi officer who seems to revel in his own voice as much as Samuel L. Jackson's character did in Pulp Fiction.

The actors he tested obviously could ace the German dialogue, and most could handle the French portions well, Tarantino said.

But while they were fluent in English, "they couldn't say my poetry," Tarantino said. "Because there is a poetic quality to my dialogue. There's a musical quality to my dialogue. ... As fluent as they might have been in English, that wasn't the language for them to recite poetry in. But when Christoph came in, halfway through the audition, I knew we'd found our Landa."

Inglourious Basterds opens this week

"When Christoph (Waltz) came in, halfway through the audition, I knew we'd found our Landa."
Quentin Tarantino

Waltz's Landa is a roll-with-the-punches Nazi who excels at his job as the Third Reich's foremost "Jew Hunter" but concocts an intricate exit strategy for himself as the tide turns against Germany.

The acting prize at Cannes and the Oscar buzz that followed have come as a pleasant surprise, though what Waltz hopes to get out of his Inglourious Basterds experience is a chance to find more acting opportunities beyond TV and theatre work back home. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

primetime 8/18/09

TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
	265	353	2 TVO	Blue Realm (DVS)		Last Call-Gladstone Hotel		Lost in Austen		Stephen Fry in America		Last Gladstone
	211	331	3 GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	NCIS "Toxic" (HDTV)		(9:01) Big Brother 11		The Unit "Sacrifice"		News
	215	343	4 OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere Il	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6 CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy!	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	Being Erica (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7 CITY	Hell's Kitchen (N)		Who Wants to Be a Millionaire		More to Love (N)		Make Me a Supermodel		News
	212	313	8 CTV	etalk	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance Canada (N)				Flashpoint (DVS)		News
	218	345	11 E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Inside Hollywood		X-Weighted		Ruby	Ruby	News/Eleven
	137	763	13 TFO	Panorama été	Météo	Rebut global	Villages	*La Discrète* ★★ (1990, Com. dramatique)			Folie-aventure	Météo
	-	-	14 -	Raymond	According-Jim	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15 SUN	Stargate SG-1		*Presumed Dead* (2005, Suspense) Sherilyn Fenn.				The DVD Show	Argos Access	Becker
	-	387	16 CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	NCIS "Toxic" (HDTV)		(9:01) Big Brother 11		Medium		News 4 at 11
	-	385	17 NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	America's Got Talent		America's Got Talent Ten acts from the top 40 perform.				News
	-	386	18 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Who Wants to Be a Millionaire		Shaq Vs. (N)		Primetime: The Outsiders (N)		News
	219	346	20 ACH-B	The Road to Avonlea		America's Got Talent		America's Got Talent Ten acts from the top 40 perform.				A News
	-	-	28 FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men	Hell's Kitchen (N)		More to Love (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61 PBS	News-Lehrer	Foot in Grave	Nova (HDTV) (DVS)		Nova scienceNOW (N)		Human Senses		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330 WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	90210 "Okaeri, Donna!"		90210 (HDTV)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331 SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Dr. Phil (HDTV)		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332 TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Friends	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	90210
news	502	390	26 NW	CBC News	Mansbridge	The Hour David Thewlis.		CBC News: The National		My Big Fat Diet		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79 CNB	Kudlow Report		Cruise Inc.: Big Money		Big Brother, Big Business Surveillance.				Mad Money
sports	405	417	22 net	MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at Toronto Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.						Sportsnet Con.	Sportsnet Con.	Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30 TSN	Interruption	WTA Tennis Rogers Cup – Day Two. (HDTV) From Toronto. (Live)					SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	411	457	58 OLN	Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter
	417	406	81 SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Jacked!	Jacked!	Pimp My Ride
family	551	542	25 YTV	Drake & Josh	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45 TEL	Jimmy Two	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken	American Dad	Moral Orel
	556	540	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27 W	Style by Jury	Friends	Designer Move	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	*My Silent Partner* (2006, Suspense)		
	570	580	29 MM	One Tree Hill		Degrassi: TNG	Instant Star	Greek "Spring Broke"		MuchNews	Video on Trial	One Tree Hill
	615	520	31 A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 Past cases.		The Cleaner (HDTV) (N)		The Cleaner
	700	800	35 TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Magnifica Italia	Magnifica Italia	Ma Il Portiere non C'e Mal?		Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
	571	581	36 MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		mmtop10.ca		Entourage	Gene Simmons	The Daily Fix
	575	583	38 CMT	Cross Canada Countdown		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Cheerleaders
	616	521	39 SHO	The Outer Limits		Painkiller Jane		*XIII* (2009, Suspense) Val Kilmer, Stephen McHattie.				House
	620	523	40 BVO	SABIAN: The Cymbal Makers		Live at the Rehearsal Hall		Ronnie Hawkins-Birthday		Bravonews	Song for Africa	Law & Order
	601	562	41 SLC	Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		ET Canada
	522	506	43 HIS	NCIS "Identity Crisis"		Lost Worlds		Zero Hour		NCIS "Identity Crisis"		Turning Points
	625	548	44 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Hot Box	Awesome	Daily Show
	600	564	46 H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	HGTV's Top 10	Dirty Business	SarahCottage	Genevieve	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47 TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	House-Payne	House-Payne	*Set It Off* ★★★ (1996, Action) Jada Pinkett, Queen Latifah.				
	576	582	49 BET	106 & Park	*Love for Sale* (2008, Romance-Comedy) Jackie Long, Jason Weaver, Mya.					Tiny & Toya	Tiny & Toya	W. Williams
	627	528	50 SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Torchwood		Ghost Hunters		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52 MTV	Topshop NYC	After	MTV News	Cribs	16 and Pregnant		Daddy's Girls	House, Jazmin	MTV Live
	618	524	54 TROP	Power Play		Tube Tales	Tube Tales	Deal or No Deal Canada		King	King	King
	603	561	56 FOOD	Chef at Home	French Food	At the Table	At the Table	Hell's Kitchen		Good Eats	Good Eats	Iron Chef Am.
	261	394	60 V	Murder, She Wrote		Bless-Father	On the Buses	Quantum Leap		5 Seekers	Search	Poltergeist
	621	527	63 STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	etalk	Look-A-Like	Look-A-Like	Tonight Show-Conan O'Brien		TMZ
	553	546	65 TRE	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Zigby	Max & Ruby
	115	711	101 TVA	Qui perd gagne (SC)		Fort Boyard (SC)		Las Vegas (SC)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Les Rivières*
	126	730	102 RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249 VIVA	Judging Amy		Missing		The Closer		Ghostly Enc.	In Dreams	Psychic Inv.
	300	601	301 M1	(7:10) *What Just Happened?* (2008, Comedy-Drama)				*Leatherheads* ★★ (2008, Romance-Comedy)				*Soul Men*
	305	612	306 PIX	(7:05) *Runaway Train* ★★ (1985, Action) Jon Voight.				*A Fish Called Wanda* ★★★ (1988, Comedy), Kevin Kline				*The Pathfinder*

critics'corner

Flashpoint
There's no such thing as a routine assignment when you're a cop in a TV show. The SRU team is assigned to protect a VIP when a bomb goes off in a hotel kitchen, and kidnappers use the explosion as a cover to snatch the VIP's wife. Enrico Colantoni, Amy Jo Johnson, Hugh Dillon and David Paetkau star in "Eagle Two." 10 PM on CTV

NCIS
Abby (Pauley Perrette) is asked to take over for a government scientist who has gone missing and carry on his work, but Gibbs (Mark Harmon) and the team fear that she will meet the same fate as her predecessor in "Toxic." Michael Weatherly, David McCallum and Sean Murray also star. 8 PM on GTV, CBS

Shaq Vs.
Shaquille O'Neal has few rivals in the basketball world, but how would he fare against other top athletes on their own turf? That's the premise of this high-spirited new reality series, which finds the Cleveland Cavaliers star challenging stars in other sports, swimming against Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps, playing volleyball opposite Kerri Walsh and Misty May-Treanor, and in the opener, trying his gridiron skills against Pittsburgh's Ben Roethlisberger. 9 PM on ABC

AMC's Mad Men comes to iTunes

DOWNLOAD Mad for Mad Men but missed Sunday's Season 3 debut? You can now catch it on iTunes in Canada, for a fee. New episodes of the critically lauded AMC series can be bought on iTunes the day after they air. A standard definition episode is $2.49 and a high-definition one is $3.49. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Shootout near movie set

FILM Workers preparing a Manhattan neighbourhood for an upcoming movie shoot saw real bullets flying outside a housing project. Feliberto Rivera was hanging "no parking" signs in the Chelsea section for Queen Latifah's new movie, Just Wright, when the shooting began. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kenya's Style
Kenya Hunt
Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit: metronews.ca/movies

Fake smoke too much for Mark

Mark Wahlberg was rushed to hospital on Friday after inhaling fake smoke. He was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital after breathing in too much of the substance on the set of his new movie The Fighter. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Celebrity Buzz

Rob and Kristen get cozy in Vancouver

FINALLY The cast and crew of Eclipse took over Vancouver sushi restaurant Miku over the weekend to celebrate filming of the third Twilight instalment — and all eyes were on co-stars Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart, us-magazine.com reports.

The two were very close during dinner, taking smoke breaks together and even leaving together. On Saturday, they snuggled at a Kings of Leon concert — when they weren't laughing and smoking cigarettes.

"They've decided to be more public about going out now," an insider told Us Weekly. "They're not boyfriend and girlfriend, but they've definitely hooked up."

Their Twilight co-stars are supportive.

"If they want to date each other, fine!" Billy Burke, who plays Stewart's dad, told Us. "Look, when you're that age, you're going to make mistakes. You're going to date people you probably shouldn't date. It's all part of the growing process."

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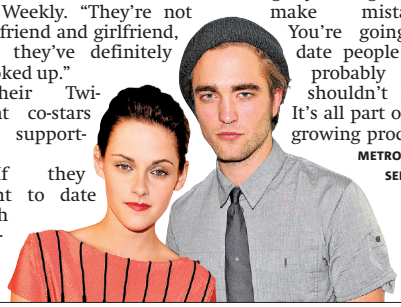


Ashlee and Perez tweet it out

ONLINE DUST-UP Ashlee Simpson has lashed out at celebrity gossip blogger Perez Hilton via Twitter, popeater.com reports.

Hilton ran a story about the singer and her husband, Fall Out Boy bassist Pete Wentz, claiming that Simpson's drunken partying caused a loud spat between the two at an anniversary celebration for Wentz's bar, Angels & Kings.

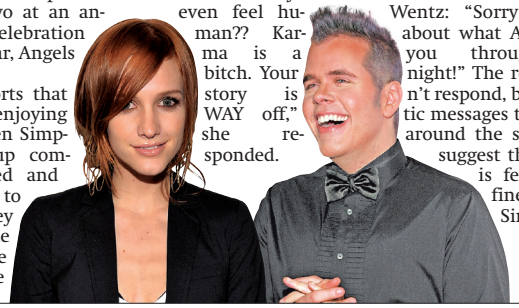
Hilton reports that Wentz was enjoying his party when Simpson "came up completely wasted and yells at him to leave. They fought, she told him he was horrible in front of a whole group of people and made him leave his own party early. So they make a scene and leave the bar."

Now Simpson has used Twitter to scold Hilton for his damaging gossip. "When all you do is make up untrue stories — look in the mirror. Do you even feel human?? Karma is a bitch. Your story is WAY off," she responded.

Naturally, Hilton responded right away, tweeting: "There are a lot of good rehab facilities in Malibu!" He added, "I don't wanna name names and get people fired but several of the people I spoke with work at Angels & Kings. I'm not wrong."

He also tweeted to Wentz: "Sorry to hear about what Ashlee put you through last night!" The rocker didn't respond, but romantic messages to his wife around the same time suggest that Wentz is feeling just fine about Simpson.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Vanessa can't wait to go R-rated

GROWING UP Vanessa Hudgens is keen to shed her Disney star image, so she can land adult roles in "R-rated films," femalefirst.co.uk reports. The actress found fame as the star of the teen-favourite High School Musical series, but her image has been tarnished by a series of nude photo leaks.

Hudgens hints the scandals won't damage her long-term career plans because she's ready to move on from being a child star. The 20-year-old told Star magazine: "The fact that kids look up to me is extremely flattering.

"But at the end of the day, I want to do R-rated films that are a little edgier."

The actress is currently embroiled in a second nude-picture scandal and was left red-faced last weekend when comedian Dane Cook told her to leave her clothes on at the Teen Choice Awards.

Cook, who was presenting the Female Hottie Award, searched for Hudgens in the audience before saying: "Vanessa Hudgens! Girl, you got to keep your clothes on!"

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Amy wants me back: Blake

HIS TAKE Divorce or no divorce, Blake Fielder-Civil says his estranged wife Amy Winehouse is apparently dying to rekindle their relationship, he tells the News of the World.

"We've been talking for the first time in months," he said. "I love her as much as ever. I know she still loves me, even though we're getting divorced."

Fielder-Civil even insists they could give marriage another go. "I want to take her out for dinner and propose again. I hope that within five minutes we'll be planning where we're next going to get married."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Simpson camp wants Jess to join American Idol

CAREER MOVE While gossip fans have been keeping track of her recent split from Tony Romo and her growing and shrinking waistline, Jessica Simpson's father and manager, Joe Simpson, has been eyeing a new gig for his daughter.

Sources tell Page Six that Joe has been aggressively lobbying the producers of American Idol to hire Jessica as the permanent replacement for Paula Abdul. There's been no word on what they think of the idea.

METRO WORLD NEWS

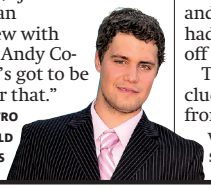
GETTY IMAGES

I'll pose nude... for a price: Levi

MONEY-MAKER Levi Johnston, who fathered a child with Sarah Palin's teenage daughter, says he would be willing to pose nude — for the right price.

"It depends on the money, man," Johnston said in an interview with Bravo's Andy Cohen. "It's got to be right for that."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Fat double-standard, Kirstie says

SHE'S MAD Kirstie Alley is fuming about a tabloid report that suggests she's so overweight she has just four years to live, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The National Enquirer alleged the 58-year-old's binge eating and yo-yo dieting had "shaved years off her life span."

The report includes a quote from a doctor who claims she "may only live to 62." The article has infuriated Alley, who took to the Internet to ask why overweight male stars aren't subjected to the same press intrusion.

Alley tweeted: "I wonder if Kevin James, John Goodman, Alec Baldwin, James Gandolfini, K-Fed, Bill Shatner, etc are dying in four years or only FAT actresses."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Eva jumps into resto expansion

ENTREPRENEUR Eva Longoria Parker is poised to take off, people.com reports. The actress is opening the Las Vegas location of her restaurant Beso on New Year's Eve 2010 and has plans for airport locations.

She says the venue is still under construction, but the design and menu — including flatbread, tortilla soup and guacamole — will be similar to Hollywood's Beso.

She said she'll launch "Besitos, which are little besos," in airports, with limited menus.

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Thursday 90% Showers 25°/18°

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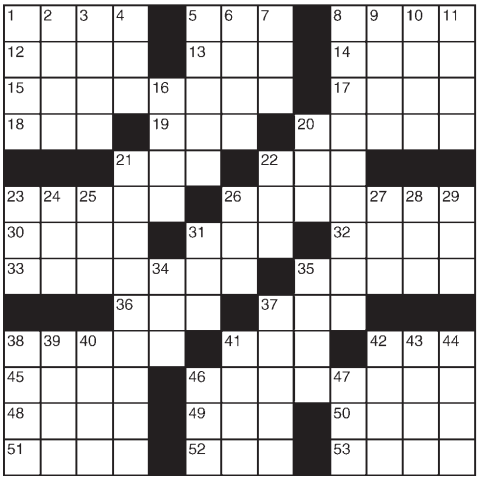


Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	8	9				3		
			2	4				1
6					9			5
		4	6		5		9	
	9			1			2	
	6		4		3	7		
4			7					9
7				6	2			
		6				8	7	

ACROSS

1 Apply your John Hancock
5 Pharm. watchdog
8 Cold War-era map abbr.
12 Verifiable
13 Actor Voight
14 Contendere preceder
15 Gran Torino star
17 Prepares Easter eggs
18 Potent stick
19 Mess up
20 Abacus components
21 Father
22 Peacenik's worry
23 Access a chat room
26 Allergy inducer
30 First victim
31 Behar of The View
32 It takes the cake
33 Gave way
35 Eucalyptus eater
36 Nevertheless
37 Disencumber
38 Performances
41 Johnson or Heflin
42 Windy City abbr.
45 Prom transportation
46 Bone china name
48 Hydrox competitor
49 Historic period
50 Between jobs
51 Flex
52 Tavern
53 Wanders about

DOWN

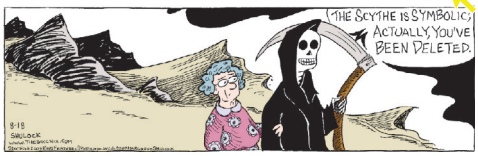
1 Undo a dele
2 Ahmadinejad's land
3 Sudden rush of wind
4 Trawler item
5 Feature of Norway's coast
6 Entrance
7 Moreover
8 American Idol champ Carrie
9 High-protein bean
10 Coaster
11 Flag maker
Betsy
16 Withdraw gradually
20 Satchel
21 Parton's theme park
22 Method
23 Nonprofessional
24 Sapporo sash
25 "Golly!"
26 Sceptre
27 Zsa Zsa's sis
28 Moray, for one
29 Modern-day evidence
31 Lustrous black
34 — Moines
35 Monarch
37 Speeder spotter
38 Unkempt one
39 Take on
40 Portent
41 Aloe —
42 Last few notes
43 Retain
44 Midmonth date
46 Symbol of intrigue
47 Peruke

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

7	5	3	8	9	4	2	6	1
8	2	1	5	3	6	4	9	7
9	4	6	7	1	2	3	5	8
5	7	2	3	8	1	9	4	6
6	1	4	2	7	9	8	3	5
3	9	8	6	4	5	7	1	2
2	3	5	4	6	8	1	7	9
1	8	7	9	5	3	6	2	4
4	6	9	1	2	7	5	8	3

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day

Chicken and Rice Dinner

INGREDIENTS:

1 broiler/fryer chicken, cut up
1/4 to 1/3 cup (50 to 75 ml) all-purpose flour
2 tbsp (25 ml) vegetable oil
2-1/3 cups (575 ml) water
1-1/2 cups (375 ml) Uncooked long grain rice
1 cup (250 ml) milk
1 tsp (5 ml) salt
1 tsp (5 ml) poultry seasoning
1/2 tsp (2 ml) pepper
Chopped fresh parsley

METHOD:

1. Dredge chicken pieces in flour. In a large skillet, brown chicken on all sides in oil over medium heat.
2. In a large bowl, combine the next six ingredients. Pour into a greased 13-in. x 9-in. x 2-in. (33 cm x 23 cm x 5 cm) baking dish. Top with chicken.
3. Cover lightly with foil and bake at 350 F (180 C) for 55 minutes or until rice and chicken are tender. Sprinkle with parsley before serving.

SERVES 6

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You may feel hard done by when things don't work out as you expected, but don't lose heart — overall, you're travelling in the right direction.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
One very small problem is giving you a very big headache at the moment. Take that as a cosmic hint to focus on the things that really matter.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
The cosmic setup urges you to make a serious attempt to change certain aspects of your lifestyle. It likely won't be as difficult or painful as you think.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Someone you trusted may have let you down but you must not entertain thoughts of revenge. The worst possible thing you can do now is to start a feud.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
The sun in your sign makes you wonderfully confident and if you feel you've missed out in some way you'll make up for it over the next 24 hours.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Something you thought was finished will return to annoy you and likely it's your fault. The matter won't rest until you deliver what's expected of you.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
No matter what losses you may have suffered of late, they took place for a reason. Your task now is to find out what that reason is and to learn from it.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
The planets warn if you carry on at your present pace you risk doing yourself serious damage. There is no point running yourself into the ground.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
The sun in Leo is a great omen for those born under the sign of the Archer and you're certainly having a good time. But get serious about your work.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
What you thought was bad news yesterday may well turn out to be good news today. Once again you seem to have assumed the worst.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Sometimes you wonder why you put up with certain people and you'll feel that way today. But don't be too eager to bring a relationship to an end.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
What happens today will remind you that love cannot be bought or sold at any price. You are wealthy beyond measure in what really matters.

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WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

1. Anaheim NHLers' hockey disks (1)
2. Actress Crawford was stellar (1)
3. Poetically, below molars (1)
4. Egyptian capital novice (2)
5. Elm Street Freddy's German pistols (2)
6. Small-minded actress Mia (2)
7. NBA great Magic's TV dinners (2)

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ANSWERS
1. DUCES PICES 2. JOAN SHONE 3. NEATH TEETH 4. CAIRO TYRO
5. KRUEGERS LEGERS 6. NARROW FARROW 7. JOHNSONS SAVANSONS

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FIVE-STAR SAFETY RATING◊

HWY: 5.7L/100KM – 50 MPG
CITY: 7.9L/100KM – 36 MPG△

G3 Wave 5-door SE model shown with CF5, D52 and PW8.††

2009 PONTIAC G3 WAVE SE

$13,238* CASH PURCHASE PRICE

INCLUDES $3,625 CASH CREDIT

Your choice of 5-door or sedan

Offer Includes $1,000 Loyalty Bonus. Available to current GM owners.▼

G3 WAVE GIVES YOU MORE

	2009 G3 WAVE SE 5-DOOR WITH SUNROOF	2009 TOYOTA YARIS LE BASE 5-DOOR MODEL	2009 HONDA FIT DX BASE 5-DOOR MODEL
LOWER CASH PRICE	$13,238	$13,270**	$14,980**
AIR CONDITIONING	✔	X	X
AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION	✔	X	X
POWER SUNROOF	✔	X	X
FOG LIGHTS	✔	X	X
REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY	✔	X	X
CRUISE CONTROL	✔	X	X
ON STAR◊	✔	X	X
POWERTRAIN WARRANTY	5-year/160,000 km	5-year/100,000 km	5-year/100,000 km

WITH More than $4,000◆ in additional features than Toyota or Honda

◆Value of additional standard features based on dealer pricing. Vehicle comparison is based on 2009 G3 Wave SE (2TX48 1SB + MXO +CF5), 2009 Yaris LE 5-Door (KT923M), and 2009 Fit DX (GE8729E). **Vehicle specification and purchase price according to the information available on the manufacturer's website at time of printing.

HWY: 5.9L/100KM – 48 MPG
CITY: 8.7L/100KM – 33 MPG△

2009 PONTIAC G5 SE

$13,998* CASH PURCHASE PRICE

INCLUDES $4,500 CASH CREDIT

Your choice of coupe or sedan

Offer Includes $1,000 Loyalty Bonus. Available to current GM owners.▼

G5 GIVES YOU MORE

	2009 G5 SE	2010 TOYOTA COROLLA CE BASE SEDAN MODEL	2009 HONDA CIVIC DX BASE SEDAN MODEL
LOWER CASH PRICE	$13,998	$15,260**	$16,990**
AIR CONDITIONING	✔	X	X
AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION	✔	X	X
16" ALUMINUM WHEELS	✔	X	X
REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY	✔	X	X
POWER DOOR LOCKS	✔	X	X
HP / TORQUE	155 / 150	132 / 128	140 / 128
POWERTRAIN WARRANTY	5-year/160,000 km	5-year/100,000 km	5-year/100,000 km

WITH More than $3,000◆ in additional features than Toyota or Honda

◆Value of additional standard features based on dealer pricing. Vehicle comparison is based on 2009 G5 SE (2AL69/2AL37 1SA + MXO), 2010 Corolla CE (BU42EM) and 2009 Civic DX Sedan (FA1529EX). **Vehicle specification and purchase price according to the information available on the manufacturer's website at time of printing.

or ask your dealer about our 0% purchase‡ financing on select models

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STUDENT BONUS◇ GM pays the first 2 monthly payments▽

For the latest information, visit us at pontiac.gm.ca, call 1-800-GMDRIVE or visit your local Pontiac Buick GMC dealer. ▼$1,000 is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive) and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. Example: $10,000 purchase price, after tax price is $11,200 ($10,000 plus $1,200 applicable taxes). After applying $1,000 credit, after tax price is $10,200 ($885 reduced purchase price plus $115 applicable taxes), with the $1,000 credit being the $885 reduction from the purchase price and the $115 reduction in taxes which would have otherwise been payable on the full purchase price. Such credit may be applied only to the purchase/finance/lease of a new 2009 or 2010 GM vehicle delivered between July 2 and August 31, 2009. Offer applies to current owners/lessees of any GM vehicle; excluding 2008MY and prior vehicles and Medium Duty Truck. Vehicle must have been registered and insured in customer's name for previous consecutive 6 months. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. *Offer applies to the cash purchase of 2009 Pontiac G3 Wave SE 5-door or Sedan 1SR/G5 SE Coupe or Sedan 1SR). Cash purchase price reflects discounts or other incentives that are only available when consumers opt for cash purchase offers, by selecting lease or finance offers consumers are foregoing such credit which will result in a higher effective interest rate. Freight ($1,325/$1,325), license, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees and taxes are not included. ◆Offers apply as indicated to the purchase of 2009 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Pontiac Buick GMC Dealer Marketing Association area. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer may lease or finance for less. Limited time offer. ◊Based on 2009 Pontiac G3 Wave SE 5-door SE model shown with CF5, D52 and PW8. MSRP $18,195 (includes $1,200 freight, excludes taxes, licence, insurance and registration). Based on 2009 Pontiac G5 SE model shown with CF5, D52 and PW8. MSRP $18,195 (includes $1,200 freight, excludes taxes, licence, insurance and registration). Actual damages may vary. Always wear your seat belt and properly secure children in rear seats. Never put a rear-facing child seat in front of an active frontal airbag. For more information, see driver and front passenger in the Frontal Crash Test. †Pontiac G3 Wave 5-door SE model shown with CF5, D52 and PW8. MSRP $18,195 ◊OnStar® services require vehicle electrical system (including battery), wireless service and GPS satellite signals to be available and operating for features to function properly. Subscription Service Agreement required. Call 1-888-4ONSTAR (1-888-466-7827) or visit onstar.ca for OnStar's Terms and Conditions, Privacy Statement and details and system limitations. ‡0% purchase bank financing available on approved credit from TD Bank for 36/60/72 months; ask your dealer for additional information. Available only on Pontiac Vibe, G3 Wave and G5. Financing available on approved GMAC credit only. 0% purchase financing for 72 months available on the following 2009 models: Pontiac G6, G8, Torrent; Buick Allure, Lucerne. 0% purchase financing for 60 months available on the following 2009 models: Pontiac G5, G8, Torrent; Buick Allure, Lucerne; GMC Canyon. 0% purchase financing for 48 months available on the following 2009 models: Pontiac Solstice; GMC Canyon. 0% purchase financing for 36 months available on all other 2009 models except: Pontiac Vibe; GMC Envoy, Acadia, Yukon; Buick Enclave; GM vans; GMT 900 family 2, 3 & T. Example: $10,000 at 0% for 36/48/60/72 months , the monthly payment is $277.78/$208.33/$166.67/$138.89. Cost of borrowing is $0, total obligation is $10,000. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. †Subject to Vehicle Redemption Allowances. Visit thegmcard.ca for more details including terms and conditions that apply to The GM Card Earnings and Redemption Program. The Toronto-Dominion Bank and its affiliates are not responsible for the GM Card Earnings and Redemption Allowance Program. ®Registered trade-mark of General Motors Corporation used under license. TD logo is a trade-mark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank. ▽GMCL will pay the first two months' GMAC finance payments for finance terms up to 60 months only, paid up to a maximum monthly finance payment of $450 (tax included). Offer applicable to equal monthly payment finance agreements with GMAC and subject to GMAC credit approval. License, insurance, registration and administration fees not included and may be payable upon signing. Program not available to residents of any province that requires GMAC to pay provincial sales tax. ◇Student must graduate after 1 of 4 graduations as for more details.

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2nd PRIZE
A 7-night Air & Hotel, all-inclusive vacation for 2 at Gran Bahia Principe Cayo Levantado, Don Pablo Collection in Samana, Dominican Republic

3rd PRIZE
A 7-night Air & Hotel vacation for 2 at Outrigger Reef on The Beach in Honolulu, Hawaii

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Flights operated by Air Canada. For applicable terms and conditions, consult the Air Canada Vacations brochures. Ontario registration #50013537. Aeroplan Miles are not actual miles, but points towards rewards including travel rewards. For terms and conditions of the Aeroplan program, consult www.aeroplan.com. ■ [1]Air Canada Vacations Photo Contest (the "Contest") is open to Canadian residents having attained the age of majority in their province of residence. Amateur photographers only. Professional photographers may not participate. Contest commences at 8:00 a.m. ET on July 1, 2009 and closes at 11:59 p.m. ET on February 25, 2010. One entry per person. No purchase necessary. Thirteen prizes to be won, as listed on page, selected on the basis of best photographs submitted. Based on a departure from Toronto's Lester B. Pearson International Airport, excluding applicable taxes, approximate total value of the first prize is $5,000; of the second prize is $4,000; of the third prize is $3,000. Ten additional prizes valued at $500 each. Chances of winning a prize depend on number of entries received and on the decision of the Contest judges, selected by Air Canada Vacations. For full details, rules and regulations, visit aircanadavacations.com/captureyourmoment. [2]New bookings only. Subject to availability. Offer is subject to change without notice and can only be combined with early booking bonuses offered by hotels and resorts. Early booking bonus not applicable when hotel is on sale. Not applicable to group bookings. ■ ®Aeroplan is a registered trademark of Aeroplan Canada Inc. ®Air Canada Vacations is a registered trademark of Air Canada, used under license by Touram Limited Partnership, 2700 Matheson Blvd. East, Mississauga ON. Visit www.aircanadavacations.com for up-to-date information.

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